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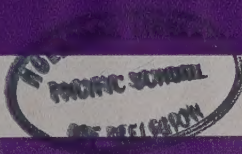
CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR



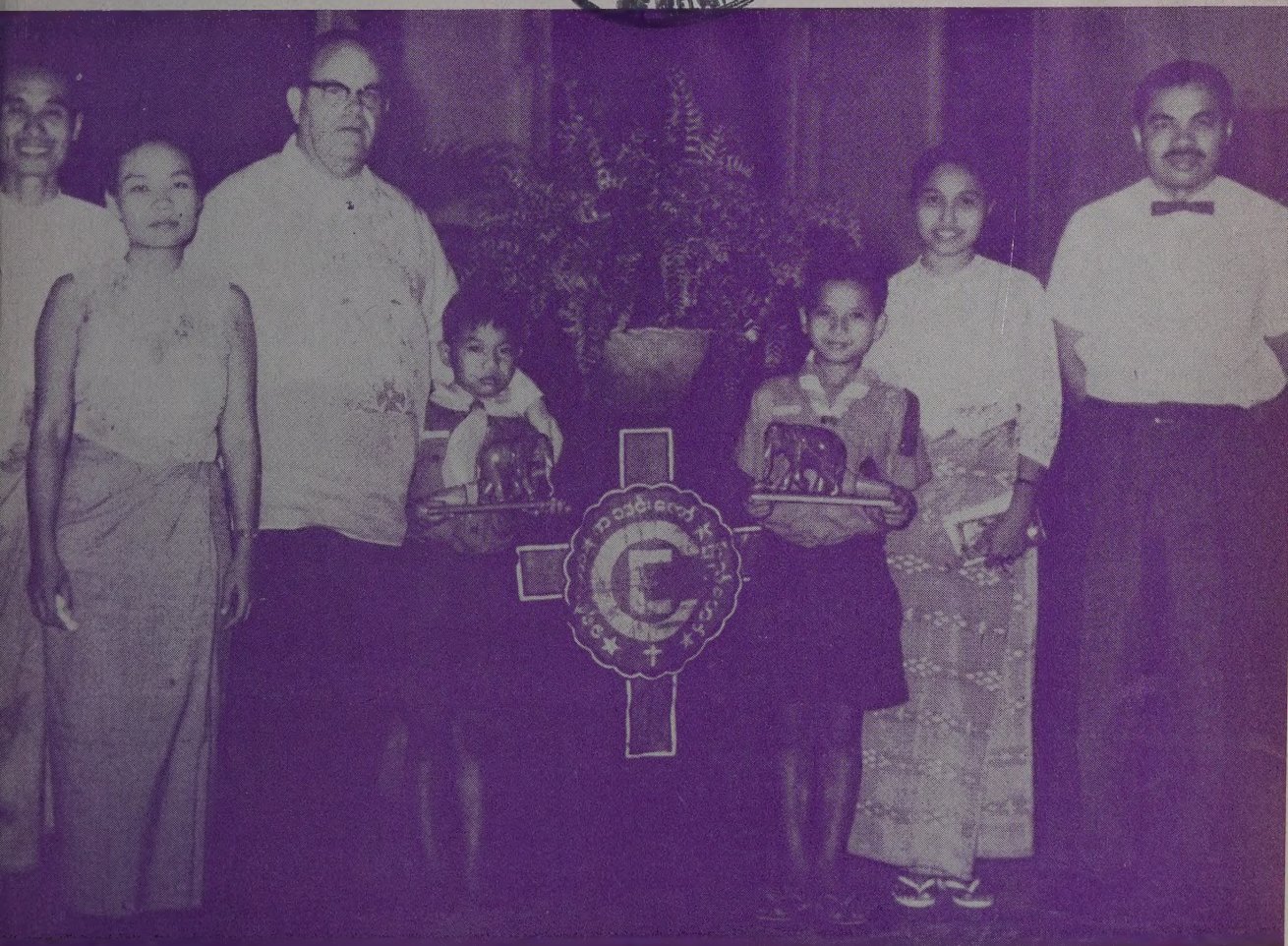
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World

JUNE-JULY, 1961



Topics for July and August



HAROLD E. WESTERHOFF AND BURMA ENDEAVORERS AT RANGOON RALLY

For Christ and the Church...

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR



World

Cover

Among leaders at the rally when Harold E. Westerhoff visited Rangoon were Rev. M. A. Combs (right), American Baptist missionary from Minneapolis who is counselor for the Burma Baptist Christian Endeavor Union, and H. Pan Aung (left), general secretary. Two Christian Endeavor Scouts hold carved teakwood elephants, gifts for Mr. Westerhoff.

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The Voice of Christian Endeavor

JUNE-JULY • 1961

Volume 76, Number 10

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|---------------------------|------------------|
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MEMO

from the General Secretary

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR IN KALAUPAPA

Were you to be asked the question, "What is the name of the Christian Endeavor Society in the United States located farthest west of the Rockies?" what would be your answer? Most of us would doubtless be wrong in facing that little bit of geography. Many of us would at once think of some place along the Pacific Coast of Mainland U.S.A. The correct answer—Kanaana Hou Christian Endeavor Society in the Kalaupapa Settlement on the Island of Molokai in Hawaii. Kanaana Hou means "New Canaan." And what a beautiful place it is, on the most beautiful of the Hawaiian Islands, the Paradise of the Pacific.

Kanaana Hou Church, and the society which belongs to that church, is located in Kalaupapa Settlement, the Hansen's Disease colony on Molokai. In 1952 I remember so well the late Ernest R. Bryan, then president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor, referring to this particular society as his favorite society. Then I could not understand why he felt this way, but I do now for I have met with that society on two occasions, once in 1956 and again in 1961 during my Around-the-World trip. And if you could meet with them, this society would be your favorite too, for nowhere in all of my Christian Endeavor experience have I found the warmth of Christian fellowship that I have found in that society on that far-away Island of Molokai.

For many years, perhaps nearly a century, this colony (for many years known as a leper colony) was restricted and visiting was prohibited except for doctors and nurses and intimate friends and relatives of the patients. But for the last few years it has been possible to have freer access to this part of the United States that we know so little about. Now the Department of Health encourages visits of interested persons; the old fears of many years are a thing of the past.

This is not a lazy town with only hospitals and bedridden patients. It is a bustling small community, organized to govern itself. And in the center of the settlement is Kanaana Hou Church. The church and the Christian Endeavor Society is made up of patients and non-patients, workers in the settlement. One of the outstanding leaders, my host on my recent visit, is Deacon Teruo Ogawa, not a patient, but a government worker in the settlement. "Terry" is known to many on the Mainland because of an extensive tour he made here in 1954 in connection with the World's Christian Endeavor Convention held that year in Washington, D.C.

Kalaupapa is a peninsula and it is not easy to reach. It is surrounded on two sides by the Pacific Ocean, and on the south by a sheer rock cliff, passable only by a meager donkey trail. My transportation from Honolulu to Kalaupapa was by a small twin-engined plane of ancient vintage. It flew only 1,000 feet above the Pacific and one imagined that every wave and ripple in the ocean's surface could be felt in the plane. Quite a contrast to the jets which flew at 31,000 feet during most of my trip! The pilot and I were the only occupants in the little plane and our cargo was several crates of eggs destined for the colony. I felt if the easily-damaged cargo could survive the trip so could I—and survive it I did.

While tradition suggests that the first Christian work in the colony was headed by the famous Father Damien who died a martyr there, Protestant work was begun in Kalaupapa in the 1830's. The first stone church was built of lava rock and mud. An early church on another part of the island where the settlement was once located is still used as a place of worship by Protestants today. It is called "New Siloama," or "The Church of the Healing Spring." It was here that the late "Mother" Alice Kahokuoluna ministered for many years. She was an ardent and a great and illustrious Christian Endeavorer.

As I left Kalaupapa to take off on another lap of my Around-the-World trip, the Christian Endeavorers of Kanaana Hou commissioned me to give their greetings to other Christian Endeavorers wherever I might find them. There is a radiant, a vibrant and a wonderful Christian witness at Kanaana Hou in the best tradition of Christian Endeavor.

Harold Westerhoff



Beverley Baxter of Oregon Named "Endeavorer of the Year"— Receives Trip to Convention

Shirley Hallman, Glorya McDonald, and Larry Sell Are Runners-Up; Will Receive Chicago Expenses

Beverley V. Baxter, 17-year-old high school senior, is president of the Hi-Teeners Christian Endeavor Society of First Christian Church, Roseburg, Oregon. The society counselor, Doyle R. Dobbins, calls her "a dependable leader and organizer as well as a worker," and reports Beverley has attended 101 meetings out of the last 104.

In Bible School Beverley serves in the Primary Department. She sings in the church choir and is a soloist and member of the girls' trio. For evening worship she serves as songleader, pianist or organist, as needed.

Christian Endeavor activities include serving as an officer of Douglas County Union. She was registration chairman for the Oregon Convention held in Roseburg this April. Last year she taught in the Junior High Camp and in 1959 she attended the International Convention in Philadelphia.

At Roseburg High School Beverley is student body chaplain and for two years has been a member of National Honor Society.

James C. Smith, her minister, says of Beverley, "Whether considered from the viewpoint of dynamic-dedicated leadership, or from that of varied services within the church and wholesome example in school and community or growth towards ideal Christian womanhood—she is singularly unique!"



Shirley Anne Hallman, 21 years old, is employed by Dominion Rubber Company, in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, and lives in Blair. She is president of the Senior Society of Roseville United Brethren in Christ Church where she is also a Sunday school teacher, a member of the choir, and on the

Administrative Board. She is serving her second year as Waterloo County Junior Superintendent. Shirley is active in Junior Farmers and Institute work, has taught in the community daily vacation Bible school, and is a member of a ladies' baseball team.

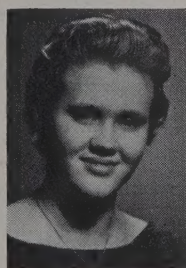
Winner of the 1961 Endeavorer of the Year selection, sponsored by the International Society of Christian Endeavor, is Beverley V. Baxter of Roseburg, Oregon. For her achievement Beverley will receive an all-expense paid trip (to a maximum of \$150) to the 46th International Christian Endeavor Convention in Chicago July 5-8, plus hotel and meal costs at the Conrad Hilton Hotel for five nights' lodging (dormitory style rooms) and all meals Wednesday through Saturday, and a free convention registration worth \$4.

Shirley A. Hallman of Blair, Ontario; Glorya I. McDonald of La Marque, Texas; and Larry J. Sell of Rockford, Ohio were runners-up in the competition. All three will receive free hotel and meals as described above, worth \$36.75, along with the free registration worth \$4.

Contestants were nominated by Christian Endeavor societies, unions, or adult groups who enrolled in the 1961 Anniversary Year Society Roll Call during January, February, or March. Each nominee was required to have passed his 12th birthday but not have reached his 25th birthday by February 28, 1961, and to be an active member of a Christian Endeavor society. The nomination form called for information on the nominee's local Christian Endeavor, church, denominational, interdenominational and community activities.

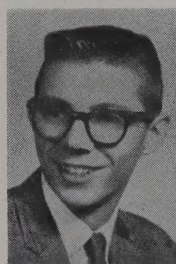
During the Chicago Convention Beverley and the three runners-up will be presented and will also have opportunity to participate on the convention program.

The Endeavorer of the Year selection was inaugurated by the International Society to recognize the outstanding young person and to encourage youth in their Christian witness.



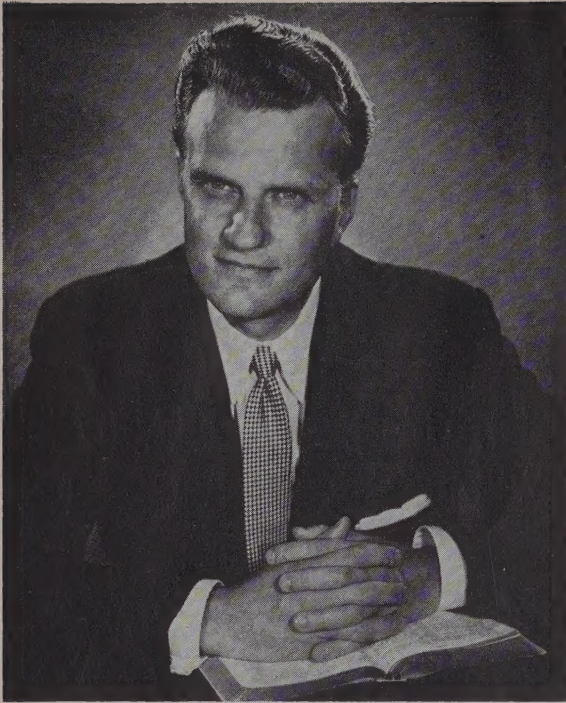
Glorya I. McDonald of LaMarque, Texas, is 17 years old and a high school senior. She is active in the society at Paul's Union Church and is a member of the choir and part-time organist for Little Church. She is president and co-editor of San Jacinto District Union and has been Texas Citizen-

ship Director and convention co-program chairman. A member of International Society's Youth Assembly, she was the top winner in Division A of the 1960 Citizenship Contest. She was in charge of a school-wide Easter program this year.



Larry J. Sell at 17 is a high school senior and vice-president of the Otterbein Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ at Rockford, Ohio. He is assistant Sunday school superintendent and a member of the church's Christian Education Committee and Bible Quiz Team. Larry

serves as vice-president of Mercer-Van Wert District Union. For the past ten years he has attended his church's summer camp. He is active in Youth Temperance Council, a member of Future Teachers Association, and a varsity football player.



Dr. Billy Graham To Receive International Youth's Distinguished Service Citation

Dr. Billy Graham of Montreat, North Carolina, has received recognition both in America and abroad as one of the major evangelists of history.

Recognition on a large scale came after his spectacular meeting in Los Angeles in 1949. Since that time Billy Graham has conducted evangelistic crusades in many of the major cities of the United States and in many foreign countries, reaching over 25 million persons.

Dr. Graham's ministry also includes a weekly radio program, "The Hour of Decision," heard regularly by an estimated 20 to 30 million. His newspaper column, "My Answer," appears daily in more than 120 newspapers. He is the author of two books, "Peace With God" and "The Secret of Happiness."

His ministry has earned the attention of leaders of church and state alike. Among his acquaintances are many international figures, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, former President Eisenhower, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, Queen Elizabeth II, and Prime Minister Nehru.

Included in Dr. Graham's many crusades has been a very real emphasis upon reaching youth, particularly those of college age.

The Windy City will be the scene of the 46th International Christian Endeavor Convention July 5-8. More than 4,000 youth from all sections of North America are expected to participate in these meetings.

A convention highlight will be the Friday evening session when Dr. Billy Graham, noted evangelist, will speak and will be awarded International Youth's Distinguished Service Citation.

The air-conditioned Conrad Hilton Hotel in downtown Chicago will be the headquarters hotel, with all convention activities centering there. Delegates will enjoy an economical "package plan" rate of just \$36.75 for five nights' lodging Tuesday through Saturday (dormitory style, four or more to a room) and a meals Wednesday through Saturday.

The program committee, headed by Dr. Earle W. Gates, has prepared for outstanding sessions. The convention officially opens with a Communion service on Wednesday morning when Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, president of the International Society, gives the keynote address. Evening speakers include Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World's Union, who will speak Wednesday night, and Dr. George K. Schweitzer, associate professor of chemistry at the University of Tennessee, speaker for the closing Saturday night session.

Dr. Burris Butler, executive editor of Standard Publishing, Cincinnati, Ohio, and a Christian Church minister, will be the speaker on Thursday evening.

Each morning there will be Quiet Hour and Bible study periods by age groups: Rev. John Benes of Grace Reformed Church, Lansing, Illinois, will lead the Junior High group; Dr. Earle W. Gates of First Church of Evans, Derby, New York, the Senior High-Young People's group; and Rev. Theodore Richardson of Metropolitan Community Church, Chicago, the Adult group.

Convention music will be directed by Dean S. Jacoby of First Christian Church, Crown Point, Indiana, with his son Stephen at the organ. The General Assembly period at luncheon will be led by Arch J. McQuilkin of Pennsylvania. At the banquet on Friday evening the toastmaster will be Cecil A. Jeffery, general secretary of the Ohio Union.

Each morning there will be the usual "school" of the convention with 37 conference classes offered, including special studies of Christian Endeavor Essentials. The Youth Assembly is scheduled to meet daily. Special activities for Juniors are planned each morning, with the Junior Convention on Saturday. The Christian Witness Parade through the streets of downtown Chicago is set for the closing day.

Winners of Christian Endeavor's ninth Citizenship Award Program will be honored at the closing session, when the Albert H. Diebold Awards will be presented. Top award goes to the Disciples Student Fellowship and the Senior Christian Endeavor Society of Magnolia Christian Church, Houston, Texas.

----- USE THIS REGISTRATION BLANK -----

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR
1221 East Broad Street
Columbus 16, Ohio

(Please print or type)

Please register me for Chicago 1961. I enclose \$4 (after June 30, 1961, fee is \$5).

Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss _____
(Circle proper title)

Street & No. _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

Church _____
(Give full name and denomination)

I am a member of the _____
Christian Endeavor Society or Youth Fellowship.

Local Union _____

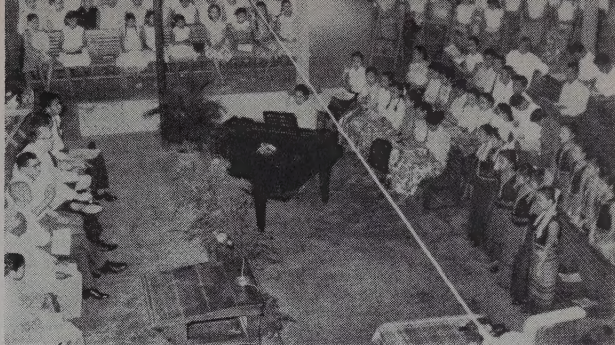
State Union _____

My present responsibility in Christian Endeavor is _____

Age (if under 25) _____ Over 25, check here ☐



ABOVE LEFT—Children at CHRISTIAN HERALD'S Faith-Love Orphanage in Hong Kong swarm around Mr. Westerhoff. ABOVE RIGHT—Every society answered the roll call by singing a hymn during the evening rally held in Cushing Hall of the Baptist Mission Compound in Rangoon, Burma.



MORE PICTURES FROM HAROLD WESTERHOFF'S AROUND-THE-WORLD TRIP



ABOVE—At Philippine Baptist Convention headquarters in Iloilo City on the Island of Panay, Mr. Westerhoff chats with Rev. J. T. Vañlor (center), the executive secretary, and Dr. Joseph T. Ward (left), acting president of Central Philippine University. Mr. Westerhoff is wearing a white dress shirt called a "Barong-Tagalog."

RIGHT TOP—On the steps of the headquarters of the Christian Endeavor Union of Great Britain and Ireland in Hounslow, Middlesex (near London), are (left to right) Alan J. Ramsey, member of the Executive Committee of the World's Union; William J. Sharpe, general secretary of Area II, World's Union; Mr. Westerhoff; Mrs. Sharpe; and Rev. H. W. Sendall, general secretary of Great Britain and Ireland.



RIGHT CENTER—In the Newcastle District of New South Wales, Australia, for a rally, Mr. Westerhoff visited the offices of the Lord Mayor, F. J. Purdue (wearing the chain of office), with Christian Endeavor leaders Ron Carlin (left) and Rev. J. Warwick Lindsey.



RIGHT BOTTOM—The Portuguese Christian Endeavor emblem was prominently displayed at a rally in Oporto, Portugal, marking the second anniversary of the union. Over 400 attended the 9:30 P.M. meeting in the Assembly Hall of the Y.M.C.A.



LOW—TOP LEFT—Among Endeavorers greeting Mr. Westerhoff at the Madras Airport in India are James D. Isaac (left), traveling secretary of the India Union; Rev. E. Tychicus (second from left), honorary general secretary; and Rev. Titus Ebenezer (third from right), president. TOP RIGHT—Welcome dinner in honor of Mr. Westerhoff at the Mission House of the Advent Christian Mission, Velachari, Madras. BOTTOM LEFT—Mr. Westerhoff addresses the meeting of the Ministers Fellowship of the Madras Diocese of the Church of South India. BOTTOM RIGHT—Miss Wells, missionary of the Reformed Church in America, and these teachers and Christian Endeavor leaders participated in a question-and-answer meeting at Ranipet, Madras.



HONOR SOCIETIES FOR MARCH AND APRIL

Since the last list was published of societies and unions who have officially become members of the International Society of Christian Endeavor by financial support during the Membership Mobilization, a number of others have participated in the 1961 Society Roll Call.

Organizations listed below contributed during the months of March and April. Those receiving gold seals have contributed \$50 or more; red seals represent a gift of \$30; and blue seals, a contribution of \$15.

Gold Seal

Senior, First Reformed Church of Irvington, Irvington, New Jersey

Red Seal

Adult, Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua, Central America

Blue Seal

District of Columbia Alumni Fellowship, Washington, D. C.

Hawaii Association, Honolulu, Hawaii

Young People's, Kanaana Hou Congregational Church, Kalaupapa, Molokai, Hawaii

Alumni Association of Vermilion County, Danville, Illinois

Senior, Bethel Presbyterian Church, Peoria, Illinois

Senior High, First Christian Church, Crown Point, Indiana

College Park United Brethren Church, Huntington, Indiana

Trinity Reformed Church, Munster, Indiana

Metropolitan Community Church, Louisville, Kentucky

Junior, Riverford Heights Reformed Church, Detroit, Michigan

Intermediate, Fourth Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Williamstown Christian Church, Williamstown, Missouri

Senior, Little Neck Community Church, Little Neck, New York

Bykota, Southwood Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio

Hilltop Community Church, Columbus, Ohio

Otterbein United Brethren Church, Rockford, Ohio

Adult, Grace United Brethren Church, Ridgeway, Ontario, Canada

Hi-Teensers, First Christian Church, Roseburg, Oregon

Rehoboth Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania

Adult, King Street United Brethren Church, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

Bethany Evangelical United Brethren Church, Dover, Pennsylvania

Senior, Beverly Hills United Presbyterian Church, Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania

Bethel Evangelical United Brethren Church, Fredericksburg, Pennsylvania

St. Bartholomew's Union Church, Hanover, Pennsylvania

Monaca Youth Fellowship, United Presbyterian Church, Havertown, Pennsylvania

Luzerne County Union, Kingston, Pennsylvania

Young People's, Mt. Tabor Evangelical United Brethren Church, New Holland, Pennsylvania

Disston Memorial United Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Junior, Junior High, and Senior, Paul's Union Church, La Marque, Texas

Junior, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Roanoke, Virginia

Junior Youth Fellowship, Evangelical United Brethren Church, Ripon, Wisconsin

1961-62

Program Guide Writers



Elizabeth M. McKnight



Mrs. R. E. LeRiche

Writer of the 1961-62 Program Guide for the Junior High (Intermediate) age group is Elizabeth M. McKnight of Richmond, Virginia. Miss McKnight is executive secretary of the "Friends of the Seminary of Union Theological Seminary in Richmond and a member of Overbrook Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. R. E. LeRiche, whose home is in Seattle, Washington, is the author of the Senior High-Young People's Edition of the 1961-62 Guides. She is currently serving as vice-president in charge of the Pacific Region and is adviser of the high school and college age Christian Endeavor group of Skyway Bible Church.

The 1961-62 Program Guides are now available and may be ordered from the International Society for 50c each.

COMING EVENTS For Your Prayer Calendar

Here is a list of Christian Endeavor conventions and conferences scheduled to be held during the next few months. Remember these events in your daily Quiet Hour.

JUNE

- 9-11—New York, Briarcliff Manor, King's College
- 15-18—Texas, Houston
- 19-25—Minnesota, Medicine Lake
- 21-24—North Carolina, Crestmont Assembly Grounds (Junior Conference)
- 22-25—California, Pasadena
- 24-July 1—Massachusetts, Northfield

JULY

- 3-8—Washington, Warm Beach Conference Grounds (Leadership Conference)
- 5-8—46th International Christian Endeavor Convention, Chicago, Illinois
- 7—Illinois, Chicago
- 7—Indiana, Chicago
- 7—Michigan, Chicago
- 7—Ohio, Chicago
- 17-21—North Carolina, Crestmont Assembly Grounds (Young People's Conference)
- 21-23—North Carolina, Crestmont Assembly Grounds (Adult-Alumni Retreat)
- 24-27—West Virginia, Buckhannon
- 24-29—Pennsylvania, Grove City College (Summer Assembly)

AUGUST

- 7-11—Virginia, Bridgewater
- 12-19—New York, Lake Canandaigua (Summer Assembly)
- 13-20—Ontario, Selkirk (Summer Conference)
- 17-20—Ohio, Hidden Hollow Camp (Summer Conference)
- 26-31—New Jersey, Madison (Conference)

OFFICIAL NOTICE

ANNUAL MEETING

of the

International Society of Christian Endeavor

The annual meeting of the Corporation of the International Society of Christian Endeavor will be held at 2:00 P.M., Thursday, July 6, 1961, in the Waldorf Room, Conrad Hilton Hotel, Michigan Boulevard, 7th to 8th Street, Chicago, Illinois. There will be election of officers and regular business will be transacted.

The Executive Committee will propose that the Bylaws be amended to add the following to Article I, Section 1, *Membership*: Membership shall be granted to any young person who is eighteen years of age or under upon payment of five dollars annually to the treasurer and election by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any legal meeting.

All annual, sustaining, supporting, and life members of the International Society of Christian Endeavor are voting members of the Corporation. This meeting is being held in connection with the 46th International Christian Endeavor Convention which will convene July 5-8, 1961, at Chicago, Illinois.

Edith W. Meadows
President

Harold E. Meistershoff
Clerk

May 25, 1961
Columbus, Ohio

With Adults in Christian Endeavor

A page especially for Young Adults (25-35) and Adults (36-up)

ADULT TOPIC SUMMARIES

Prepared by the Adult Work Committee: Dr. Earle W. Gates, chairman; Phyllis G. Brown, Jay Sheffield

Patriotism

One Nation, under God

Psalm 33:12; Colossians 1:16-18
Independence Day in the United States and Dominion Day in Canada give pause to the preservation of freedom, possible only under God. As nations acknowledge His supreme command and know His truths, they will remain free. Adults will do well to consider our Christian heritages as citizens. Name them. Compare the religious principles of our founding fathers with those of men in leadership today. Pray earnestly for God's guidance of all governmental leaders, that our Christian heritages might be preserved. Eternal vigilance is required to keep nation "under God." Why were the words "under God" added recently to the pledge of allegiance to the American flag? Discuss the obligations of Christians to vote, to offer themselves for public office, and to combat political corruption.

Land of Liberty

1 Peter 2:11-17; Acts 10:35; Proverbs 14:34
Compare the strong religious implications in the founding of a Christian nation with those nations not having this heritage. Interpret the history of the rise and fall of nations. Why have some present nations become lesser powers, and why have so many new nations come into being? What are today's trends in national developments? Trace the spread of conquered nations enslaved by Communism and those countries liberated by Christianity. What are Christians doing about this situation? Do we have the zeal to combat Communism? Discuss the relevance of the Scripture, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). Study and present materials from *Freedom's Facts*, a publication of the All-American Conference on Combat Communism, 917 15th Street, N.W., Washington 5, D.C.

Marriage Problems

In-Laws Are Not Outlaws!

Ruth 1:1-18; 1 John 3:11-18
One American marriage in four ends in divorce. Domestic relations courts daily reveal the four causes of broken homes. They are finances, family relationships, religion, and sex, in reverse order of importance. In this unit of study, analyze these problems and discuss how to solve or avoid them. The problem of family interference, the in-law problem, is highly overrated. The younger couple is usually at fault. Jealousy, arrogance, false pride, ingratitude, and hidden resentment are causes. Discuss these factors and give examples of successful adjustment. In-laws are not outlaws indeed! They are usually fine folk, loving their children. How can the Christian promote harmony in these relationships? How can we

make the familiar expression to be "mother-in-love"? Consider the significance of Ruth's declaration.

2. The Head of the Home

11 Corinthians 4:8-18; Matthew 18:20
Basic to domestic harmony is the establishment of a home according to the Christian concept. Assuredly, Christ must be the head of the home! His Lordship and the benefits thereof are claimed by simple but necessary steps. Joining and attending the same church, giving time and money to the work of the church, saying grace at the table, and maintaining a consistent family devotional period are essential. Give testimonies to the value of these elements and examples of problems where they are lacking. Familiar old wall mottoes said, "Christ is the Unseen Head of this Home." In modern terms we may say, "Let Christ be the arbitrator in every jurisdictional dispute." Discuss the possibilities, obligations, and personal implications of this approach.

3. Sex Is Sacred

1 Corinthians 6:19, 20; 7:1-14

Note that in the four problem areas of marriage mentioned in this unit, the husband and wife should share, should fulfill each other's needs, should complement each other's life entirely. Maladjustment in sex life, usually in ignorance, is the leading problem in the marriage relationship. How does it cast its shadows in other areas of life? Sex represents the very stewardship of life; it makes fidelity possible. Mutual understanding of the three aspects of sex is necessary—physical, psychological, and spiritual. Suitable reading, counseling, and discussion are essential before and especially after marriage. What is the Christian approach to the subject? What about planned parenthood? Discuss channels of learning and helping one another. List suitable books and related materials.

Community Problems

1. Be Not Deceived

Luke 21:34; Romans 13:13; Proverbs 20:1

A vicious prey upon the community is the trade in alcohol, narcotics, and nicotine which reaches such proportions that a man will "sell his soul" for these things. Its victims tragically involve both family and community. Alcoholic beverages have reached an annual sale in America of eleven billion dollars, more than is given annually for education and religion combined. Some five million alcoholics are conservatively estimated among the consumers of alcoholic beverages, people with real problems affecting the life and economy of the nation. How can the church give guidance and understanding to the alcoholic? What other agencies are at work in this field? What can the Christian do to combat liquor advertising, traffic in narcotics, and the consumption of nicotine?

2. Deliver Us from Evil

Matthew 6:24-34; Colossians 3:1-11

Gambling has been described by the FBI as the number one crime in America. Few communities are free from it with an estimated sixty million Americans making an annual investment of twenty billion dollars in various forms of gambling. What are the evil effects of gambling upon the human personality and society? What can Christians do to deliver their communities from this evil and the crime which accompanies it? Should we seek to have local governments remove all forms of gambling from public places? Should we refuse to buy chances, to bet on races and games, to participate in lotteries, or to put up money in any form in which one gains at the expense of all others? Why do people want to gamble anyway? How can a Christian help another to overcome the tendency toward gambling?

3. Lord's Day Observance

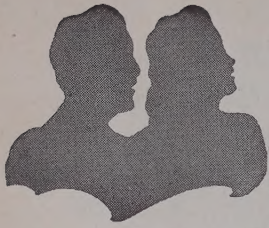
Exodus 20:8-11; Mark 2:27, 28; Revelation 1:10a

"One of the finest opportunities we have for the renewal of our Christian faith is the proper observance of the Lord's Day," a prominent church leader has said. Since creation, God ordained a day of rest following six days of work. Proper observance of this day of spiritual rest and worship is of great concern in many communities. "Business as usual" destroys the meaning of the day and denies needed rest from labor and spiritual replenishment to many. A Harvard psychologist has stated that the \$300,000,000 business in tranquilizing drugs in America is largely the result of the physical neglect of Sunday rest. How can Christians and their families help to keep the day holy? "No Sunday business" appears on advertisements of a real estate firm in Georgia, operated by a Christian Endeavorer witnessing his beliefs. In what activities should Christians engage on the Lord's Day?

4. Perilous Times

11 Timothy 3:1-5; 1 John 2:15-17

Delinquency continues to be an alarming problem in many communities, among both adults and juveniles. Over-all crime in America increased 9.3% in 1958 over the previous year, and 8.9% among persons 18 years and under. Juvenile delinquency cases in our courts have doubled in the past ten years, with illegitimate births doubling in the last eight years. In these perilous times, what is the responsibility of the church in crime prevention and rehabilitation of the criminal and delinquent? With what other community agencies can the church cooperate in the prevention and reclamation of delinquents? Obscene literature is a major problem contributing to delinquency, with the annual sale of pornography reported in America to be at half a million dollars. Discuss what can be done to stop its spread.



Power and Nations

No. 1 in a Series: "Nations in God's Plan"

Colossians 1:16-18; Romans 13:1,2

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

JULY

Comments by Dr. J. Vernon Jacobs*

To the Leader

This is the beginning of a new quarter, and the kind of a meeting you have will set a standard for those which follow. Seek to have such a fine meeting that other leaders will strive to make theirs measure up to yours. Study the lesson material thoroughly, make use of the Preparation Chart, and ask God to help you bring a challenging message to all who come.

Preparation Chart

Lesson studied? _____
Parts assigned? _____
Songs chosen? _____
Pianist and song leader notified? _____
Special music arranged? _____
Notice prepared for bulletin? _____
Cards mailed? _____
Prospects invited? _____

Publicity

On invitation postcards write **WILL GOD LET AMERICA BE DESTROYED?** Does God still rule this world, or have things got out of hand? Will He let Washington, D. C. be leveled to the ground as was Jerusalem? Will He let hordes of pagans overrun the land as did the Babylonians? Hear this discussed at Christian Endeavor Sunday night. Time: 6:30 p.m. Leader: _____

Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Prelude (quiet music)
Call to Worship: Psalm 117
Hymn: *Battle Hymn of the Republic*
Prayer
Hymn: *America the Beautiful*
Scripture: Colossians 1:16-18; Romans 13:1,2
Hymn: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*
Sentence Prayers
Leader's Talk
Two-Minute Talks
Questions for Discussion
Consecration Service
Special Music
Hymn: *Whisper a Prayer*
Benediction

Leader's Talk

Back in the days when Israel was becoming a nation, God gave laws unto them at Mt. Sinai. If they would faithfully follow His orders and obey His commandments, He promised to bless and prosper them, but if not, He would scatter them among the nations. God made good what He had said. Israel did grow and prosper and become a mighty force. But at the time when the kingdom was at its height politically, ten of the twelve tribes forsook Him and turned to idolatry. Eventually, when they did not return to Him, God allowed the Assyrians to destroy them and scatter them abroad

*Dr. Jacobs is a free-lance writer living in Phoenix, Arizona, and the author of a number of Christian educational books.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Give some examples of how God came to the rescue of His people when they put their trust in Him.
2. Give some historical examples of how God came to the rescue of nations which put their trust in Him.
3. Is America righteous enough to justify God's deliverance from enemies in an atomic age?
4. When is a nation truly Christian?
5. What responsibility does America have toward other nations?
6. What is the best service America renders to the world?
7. What can America do which has not yet been done?
8. What can Christian young people do to combat Communism?

so that they became known as "the ten lost tribes." The other two tribes went through various times of idolatry and reform, but God's patience finally gave out, and He allowed the Babylonians to destroy them and level Jerusalem and the beautiful temple to the ground.

Has God changed through the centuries? Does He still rule the nations, or have things got out of hand for Him, and may nations disregard Him completely? Can America forget God now that we are strong and feel that nothing will come of it? Let us keep in mind our own land as we study tonight "Power and Nations."

Two-Minute Talks

1. (Please tell in your own words.) From the earliest ages of the world, most of the world has depended upon force to increase the power of nations. At first people had crude weapons such as clubs, knives, swords, bows and arrows, and battering rams. Then came the discovery of gunpowder, and with it guns, cannon, and bombs. Chariots have been replaced with tanks, and ships are supplemented with submarines. In the skies fly planes, and through the air world-circling deadly atomic missiles. Yet every nation which has depended completely on force has been destroyed sooner or later by another nation which became stronger, Egypt, Persia, Babylon, Assyria, Greece, Rome, and other mighty nations eventually were overrun and devastated. In those lands are still to be seen the ruins of formerly glorious civilizations, which knew no other way of becoming great or settling quarrels than to depend on force.

Would you say that America depends completely on force? What do you see ahead for our nation?

2. (Please tell in your own words.) Various nations in the past have sought to build up power by *destroying* Christianity, which they felt was holding them back. Ten terrible Roman persecutions over a period of 200 years destroyed thousands of Christians, but the power of Rome declined. French revolutionists destroyed churches, did away with Sunday, and declared there was no

God, but in a few years they found that the nation had degenerated so greatly they had to reverse their attitude toward religion. Hitler declared that he wasn't interested in closing individual churches; he was determined to uproot Christianity completely. Christianity flourishes in Germany today, but Hitler has long since vanished from the scene.

The Communists, adopting the atheism of Karl Marx, declare that there is no God and that religion is for only slaves and weaklings. They have killed ministers, shut up churches, and taught the evolutionary doctrine that man is only an animal, that only the fittest should survive, and that only the strong should rule. Its chief appeal to young people is that its goal is the conquest of the world. That is the goal of Christianity too, but we have forgotten to emphasize it.

3. (Please tell in your own words.) Christianity has helped nations to become powerful through *ideals* of duty, honor, self-denial, self-sacrifice, brotherhood, service, and love. Within the first century it had spread to many lands. In the second century, Tertullian said, "We are of yesterday, and yet have filled every place belonging to you—cities, islands, castles, towns, assemblies, your very camp, your tribes, companies, senate and forum." By 313 A.D. it had become so powerful that Constantine legalized it, and soon it had won most of the civilized world, though it was controlled by a totalitarian power for three centuries. So amazing was the Christians' concern for helpfulness that the pagans exclaimed, "Behold, how these Christians love one another."

In the course of time the social status of women was lifted, slaves began to have rights, and gladiatorial combats in the arena were forbidden, evil shows opposed, and the killing of infants repressed. The power and influence of nations have always increased with their acceptance of the moral and spiritual standards of Christianity.

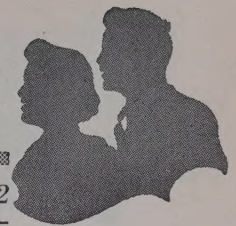
Consecration Service

The Christian and American flags should be brought to the front. The leader may then make suggestions as to what the members might do as good citizens, or the members may think of some action of their own as an expression of consecration. These will not be expressed aloud, but all will express their consecration as Christian citizens by coming forward and standing in a semicircle before the flags. After a salute to the flags, have heads bowed for a short period of silent consecration, followed by the singing of "God Bless America."

Hymns listed in program outlines in THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD have been selected from CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS. This book, with an attractive red and white paper cover, contains 113 songs and hymns for youth meetings. Available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio. Price: 50c each, \$5 per dozen, \$40 per hundred.

It's in Our Hands

Exodus 4:1-9



Junior High (12-14 Years)

JULY 2

Comments by Rev. Edgar L. Mack*

Publicity

You may make a poster with attractive cut out from publications. Place these in each of the four corners of your poster. In the center draw a church steeple, surrounded by a school, an office building, a pocket, and a car. Print at the bottom: "It's in Our Hands." Print time, place, and date of your meeting.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service

Opening Prayer:

Great art Thou, O Lord, and greatly to be praised; great is Thy power, and Thy wisdom is infinite. We would praise Thee without ceasing. Thou callest us to delight in Thy praise, for Thou has made us for Thyself, and our hearts are restless until we rest in Thee. Amen. (St. Augustine)

Hymn: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty*

Scripture: Exodus 4:1-9

Meditation

Hymn: *Where He Leads Me*

Prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer

Announcements and Offering

Topic Presentation

Closing Moments by the Counselor

Questions for Discussion

Consecration of Hands

Benediction:

May the Lord Jesus be near us to defend, within us to refresh, before to guide us, behind us to justify us, above us to bless us, who liveth and reigneth forever with the Father and the Holy Ghost, God forevermore. Amen. (A tenth-century benediction)

For the Counselor

Perhaps you would like to read the life of Moses and make some comments about the courageous use of his life for the greater glory of God. Ask the Junior Highs to name some persons in your church and community who use their gifts as responsible servants of God. What do they do to help the success of your church and community?

Challenge the members of your group so that they will see and feel that tomorrow's world will depend upon how well they use what God has given them. Areas which might be explored are international affairs, missionary service, and human relationships.

The hands of the following persons are helpful but often overlooked: the church treasurer, the clerk, the janitor, the librarian, and the industrious student. You may name others whose services are invaluable but often overlooked.

Rev. Mack, pastor of St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church, Frankfort, Kentucky, is a writer for the Division of Christian Education of this denomination.

OUR AIMS

1. To realize that each youth has hands to use for Christ and the church.

2. To become aware of the opportunities offered by the church for the use of our talents, whether small or great.

3. To sense how each of us can make a personal contribution to the church and to the world.

Meditation

There is much being written about the impact of the compact car. Yes, the little car is "coming of age." In the spiritual world as well as the material world, we have overlooked the importance of little things and deeds. Little things in our hands can become avenues of great service for God. We need to pray for God to discipline our lives that great spiritual power may be released through what He has granted us. The future is in our hands.

A Look at Our Hands (Leader's Talk)

God called Moses to His service, but Moses felt that he was not able to be God's servant. He doubted the response of his people to his words. He felt that they would question his authority. God invited Moses to take a look at his hands, "What is that in thine hand?" Moses replied "A rod." God told Moses to stretch it forth, and it became a serpent.

This rod was used to perform many signs of wonder, and all were amazed at its power. The rod wasn't much, but through God's power it became a mighty weapon in delivering the children of Israel from bondage. It proved beyond a doubt to the Egyptians that God is almighty. Moses obeyed God, and the rod became strength to overcome his doubts and fears.

God has placed wonderful talents and abilities in our hands. A talent or ability is more than a gift; it is a responsibility. Each person has a responsibility to develop his talents. It takes sacrifice, hard work, singleness of purpose, and courage. A person is maturing when he or she learns to face the responsibility to develop talents for the glory of God and the service of mankind.

Although we use our own will power, we cannot do it alone. Marian Anderson, one of the greatest living singers, whose voice has a compass of three octaves, rarely says "I" or "me." In conversation, she talks in a humble manner, using "we" or "our" or "one." "In the process of growing, there must come the realization that one can do nothing alone," she once said. "We are all dependent on a higher Providence, and to a greater or lesser degree, on the people who love us."

Discovering Daring Deeds

When we become members of the church, we enter upon the Christian vocation. We promise to be Christian in all our thoughts and deeds. This includes our hands, our talents, our gifts, and our skills. We must do everything to the glory of God. For example, we can find joy in using our hands to arrange worship centers for meetings.

(Make an opportunity list which your society may check in seeking ways to serve. Ask questions like these: (1) Do you like to sing? (2) Do you like to work in a group? (3) Do you like expressing yourself through drama? (4) Do you *really* like to wash dishes? (5) Do you like to lead a recreational activity? You may add other questions. These are merely suggestive.

Hands in Action

(If you have Durer's well-known picture of "Praying Hands," use it for a worship center and refer to it at this time.) Hands have many uses. Our hands can pray, as well as our lips. In our homes are loving hands that prepare our food and provide care. All of us can pray, "Give us this day our daily bread," and make mealtime a happy time. Then we can use our hands to work and help God answer this prayer. The deeds that we perform in our homes today will help us assume responsibility in tomorrow's world.

Our hands can become giving hands. Giving adds power to our prayers. Giving puts into practice the love we have for God and for others.

Power in Our Hands

One of the most used words of our age is "power." Have you thought of the great power in our hands for good or ill in tomorrow's world? How great will be our responsibility! Peace at home and abroad is the crying need of our times, and it is our responsibility.

We were created from the dust of the earth. God breathed life into all of us, and we became living souls. It is even more important that He made all of us for a purpose. We were created to be His servants, and our hands are to grow in their usefulness.

Think of the energies and abilities of our hands. We can clasp the hands of others and work for peace and brotherhood. Or we can hinder the progress of mankind by our unchristian attitudes. Remembering the power that is in our hands and how much is at stake in the way we use them, let us determine to grow more and more worthy of God's trust in us!

Questions for Discussion

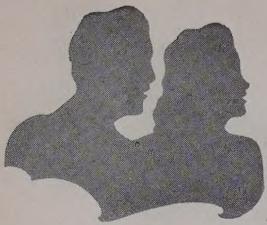
1. Is God with others as He was with Moses? (Read Joshua 1:5) Is He with us?

2. What was the secret of Timothy's power? (Read I Timothy 4:14; II Timothy 1:6, 7) Is this power available to us?

3. What opportunities are there for us to increase international, interracial, and interdenominational understanding?

Consecration of Hands

Ask each member to take a look at his hands and to ask honestly whether he has been obedient and faithful in using them for Christ and the church. Pause for a few moments of meditation. Read in unison I Corinthians 13 and sing together *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*.



Why Nations Fall

No. 2 in a Series: "Nations in God's Plan"

Psalm 9

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

JULY

Comments by Dr. Samuel S. Haas*

Promoting the Meeting

On a postal card place a gummed seal American, or Canadian, or Mexican flag in each of the upper corners. Between them print the words: *Long May She Wave*. Then write: What can I do to insure this heart's desire? Come to our Christian Endeavor meeting at (place), on (day), (time), and discuss this topic with us. Posters of a similar design and legend with any further information desired can be placed in appropriate places in the church.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Musical Prelude (good recordings)
Call to Worship
Hymn: *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*
Invocation and Lord's Prayer
Scripture: Psalm 9
Hymn: *Just as I Am, Thine Own to Be*
Sentence Prayers
Announcements and Offering
Presentation and Discussion of Topic
Illustration
Prayer of Dedication
Hymn: *America*
Benediction

Introduction

History has been defined as the record of the rise, flowering, and decline of nations. This process has happened enough to raise in the mind of the thoughtful the question "Why?" Is it an inescapable pattern like the stages of man's life or the turning of the seasons as Oswald Spengler tried to prove in *The Decline of the West*? Or is it the result, not of the weakness of age, but of the mistakes made in meeting some new challenge or complexity with which history confronts a nation as Arnold J. Toynbee contends in *The Study of History*?

The Bible also presents an interpretation of history. Its explanation of the rise and fall of nations is neither that of natural necessity nor a mistake of judgment as claimed by the two above-mentioned scholars. Rather, the Bible finds the answer in sins of sensuality or of pride.

The first category is characterized by a substitution of the irresponsibility of nature for the responsibility of God as the controlling force of history. Man is thus viewed as a child of nature, not a child of God, and so whatever is natural is right and permissible.

The second category can be described as an overestimate of man's freedom. He believes that in his own strength and wisdom he is able to guide the course of history to its desired end. He fails to realize that he is finite, limited in his understanding, mental resources, actions, and days and

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Will superiority in weapons, even atom and hydrogen bombs, guarantee any country's continued existence and pre-eminence?
2. Of what value is an upright person to a nation? Can his goodness affect favorably the condition and fate of his country?
3. How can I help to keep my country a nation under God?

that he is a dependent creature who created not himself, was not born in a vacuum, and lives not in isolation or freedom from the consequences of the actions of past or present generations. Only by denying his limitations and dependence can he presume such omniscience and omnipotence which then become the sin of pride.

Trust in Things or God

One of the expressions of the sin of pride is trusting in things for safety and security rather than in God. In Psalm 20:7,8 is found the contrast between trusting in things and trusting in God and the outcome of each in a most memorable fashion. One has only to consider the following two passages in order to appreciate the validity of the Biblical position: II Kings 19, where the siege of Jerusalem by the Assyrians in the reign of King Hezekiah is described, and II Kings 25, where the final siege of Jerusalem by the Babylonians is described. In the former instance, the king and people at the urging of the prophet Isaiah put their trust in God. In the latter situation they put their trust in the past safety of the city and its stout defenses. The result of each policy is well described in these passages.

For a modern illustration of the outcome of committing this same sin one has but to recall the fate of France at the start of World War II. In spite of the warnings of such men as General Charles de Gaulle the nation believed itself secure and safe behind its Maginot Line, a string of fortifications on its eastern front, which proved in actual combat to be nothing more than an "imaginary line." France quickly fell before the enemy's attack.

Trust in Self or God

Trust in self is another form of the sin of pride. The Bible has a classic illustration of this truth also. This will be found in Isaiah, chapters 7 and 8. The kingdom of Judah is threatened with an invasion from the united forces of Syria and Israel. King Ahaz, served with an ultimatum to join up, has refused and must now suffer the consequences of his decision. He is met by the prophet Isaiah, who warns him against seeking an alliance with Assyria as his protection. "Trust in God, not foreign alliances, as you seem inclined to do" is what Isaiah advises him. To prove the truth of his words Isaiah invites Ahaz to ask a sign of God. But, preferring to trust in his own devices rather than rely on God, he refuses with a

sly answer. Isaiah gives him a sign, nevertheless, that God will bring to naught the intent of Rezin and Pekah, coupled with the announcement of tragedy for Judah because Ahaz would not trust God, but only himself. Judah is saved from the immediate danger but suffers a worse fate in becoming the vassal of mighty Assyria whom Ahaz had begged for help.

Trust in Man's Wisdom or God's

Pleasing self is an expression of the sin of sensuality. Because men prefer to satisfy themselves rather than God, they act according to their own insights rather than accord with the expressed will of God. Especially in the realms of personal conduct and social relationships is this evident. Could there be racial, religious, and social discrimination if men lived by the laws of God rather than by their own standards? Could there be social injustice, labor-management enmity and antagonism, class warfare, and enslavement of defenseless people for economic gain if men followed the way of God rather than the greed of their hearts and the trickery of their minds? Could there be religious persecutions of minority groups by the predominant group if it were the Spirit of God dwelling in the heart rather than the lust for power?

The Roman empire's fall was in no small degree the result of the debauchery and immorality as well as the social abuses of its citizens. Only could such a situation prevail where men no longer were guided by wisdom from on high but rather by the wisdom that sprang into being in seeking to please self, not God. When a nation or a people loses its soul, its sense of responsibility before God, then it is doomed regardless of its pre-eminence in things, its wisdom, in confidence.

Conclusion

Need this be the fate of our nation? Since decline is not a matter of natural necessity or inevitable because of failure to meet new challenges creatively, it is possible to avoid what other nations have experienced. How? We must avoid the sins of sensuality and pride. We must submit ourselves to the scrutiny of God's will and judgment as set forth in Jesus Christ. If a nation will do all things in accord with the expressed will and purpose of God and trust in Him for what is beyond its ability and wisdom, then God can use it for bringing all things and beings into harmony with His Spirit and will, and bless them abundantly.

Illustration

The contrast between the sin of pride and the virtue of surrendering all to the control and use of God is set forth dramatically in the poems *Invictus* by W. E. Henley and *The Captain* by Dorothea Day. Secure copies and read them in your meeting.

*Dr. Haas is professor of Hebrew and Old Testament studies at Bloomfield College and Seminary, Bloomfield, New Jersey.

Grow in Stature

Luke 2:40-52



Junior High (12-14 Years)

JULY 9

Comments by Miss Frances M. Becker*

Suggested Program Outline

Prayer Service
Scripture Reading: Luke 2:40-52
Hymns: *I Would Be Like Jesus; Give of Your Best to the Master*
Benediction Prayers
Verses: *Spirit of the Living God; Let the Beauty of Jesus; God's Way My Way*
Special Music
Topic Presentation
Discussion: Check Your Growth
Hymn: *Trust and Obey*
Benediction

About Growth

To stop growing is to die. Cells grow, plants grow, animals grow, people grow. The day-by-day change that takes place in people is growth. A person may grow physically, mentally, spiritually, socially, and emotionally. Some growth is evident when first starts, like a seed sending forth its first green shoot. Some growth takes longer for people to see, as for example the development of a good attitude.

Growth may be good, like the development of a sound body or the improvement of character traits. Growth may also be harmful, such as the strengthening of a bad habit or the multiplication of germs creating illness. Seen or unseen, slow or fast, good or bad, growth is an integral part of life. We, as Christians, who are concerned with living a life more pleasing in the sight of Christ, must be concerned about our growth.

About Stature

Most people think of stature in terms of size or natural height, how tall, how big, or how straight. The dictionary, however, tells that stature also refers to the development of an individual, that is, his mental, spiritual, and moral growth. So we read in Luke 2:52, "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man."

About You

You, as a young Christian who is patterning his life after Christ, should also grow in wisdom and stature. While growth takes place all the time, yet each of us has a responsibility for directing and channeling that growth into what is positive and good and wholesome. All too many worldly influences would like to horn in on a Christian's growth with negative suggestions, harmful ideas, and just plain sin.

Just as the thorns came up and choked the good grass which had been planted by the sower in Christ's parable (Matthew

13:1-9), so the thorns of cheating, stealing, filthy language, drinking, improper thoughts of sex, malicious gossip, laziness, and many others twist a young person's life until there is very little left in which to find "favor with God and man."

So what can young people do in the face of such opposition and temptation? We can do as Jesus did. What did He do in meeting temptation?

He Kept in Touch with God

Jesus was well aware of God's Word as it was written in the Old Testament. He frequently read the Scriptures in the synagogue, and He became so familiar with them that He was able to quote from them whenever a problem situation arose. We read of the temptation of Jesus in Luke 4 and are amazed that time and again He rebuffed the devil's attempts to lead Him to give in to feelings of importance, pride, hunger, superiority, greed, and comfort. And what did Jesus use each time to squelch the devil? He used only the Word of God, which Scripture tells us is "sharper than a two-edged sword." Have you built up such a defense weapon against present-day temptations?

Throughout the four Gospels in the New Testament we read that Jesus communed often with His Father through prayer. Here again was another source of His great strength in time of temptation and trial. Even to the end, before His sacrifice on the cross, Jesus prayed. We are impressed by His prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane, but let us realize that this same prayer partnership with God is available to all of us as His children. With Paul, we can find the strength for daily Christian living in the assertion of Romans 8:38,39: "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

He Obeyed God

From the time that Jesus was a young boy until the time of His death, Jesus recognized that His function on earth was obedience to His Father's will. At the age of twelve when His parents had found Him in the temple in Jerusalem asking questions of the doctors, Jesus said, "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" Then throughout the Gospels, obedience is presented as one of His chief qualities, for many times Christ says, "I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me" (John 5:30).

This obedience to the will of our heavenly Father is for each Christian youth an insurance against following wrong influ-

ences and evil companions and the allurements of a world that aims to crush its followers in the muck and dirt of sin.

There's a tale of an arrogant farmer who deliberately set out to break the Lord's Day. He planted, tilled, fertilized, hoed, weeded, and harvested his crops on Sunday and then bragged about having the best crop that October that he'd ever had. A local newspaper editor who had been asked by the farmer to print the story added one sentence of his own at the end of the story: "God does not always settle His accounts in October." How obedient are you to God's will for your life?

Check Your Growth

Make a check list for your society members which will help each to determine his growth in stature as a Christian. Here are some suggestions:

1. Do you belong to the Comrades of the Quiet Hour? (Send to the International Society of Christian Endeavor for copies of "What Is the Quiet Hour?" and enrollment cards for all your members. Perhaps you will want to provide the opportunity in your meeting to sign enrollment cards.)

2. Do you read the Bible every day? (Discuss plans for daily Bible reading. Invite your minister to help you. Be sure to refer to the Daily Bible Readings in each issue of this magazine.)

3. Do you pray every day? When and how do you pray? (Discuss what makes an effective prayer. What elements should be included in our prayers?)

4. Are you growing in your reverence in public worship services? (Discuss what attitudes are fitting during various portions of the service.)

5. Are you becoming more responsible in accepting and fulfilling obligations in the church?

6. Do you seek to follow God's will for your life? (Discuss how to know what God's will is on a certain occasion.)

7. Do you take into consideration the effect on your spiritual life in making decisions about your activities?

8. Do you give regularly and willingly to the support of the church? (Discuss how much Junior Highs should give.)

9. Do you have a growing love for those of other races and nationalities?

10. Are you concerned about the physical and spiritual needs of other youth? (Discuss how Junior Highs can help to meet these needs.)

*Miss Becker is active in Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor and is assistant director of Child Care Centers of the Philadelphia Public Schools.

JUNE-JULY, 1961



Vows? Careful!

No. 1 in a Series: "Challenge for Decision"

Ecclesiastes 5:1-6

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

JULY 1

Comments by Mrs. Wesley H. Brown*

Promotion

Individual invitations will create interest. Use 3" by 5" filing cards with a magazine photo of a wedding, a court scene, or a person kneeling in prayer. Cut each photo in half with a ragged line and paste a picture on each card. According to the photo used, entitle each card either "With This Ring . . ." "To Tell the Truth . . ." or "Here Am I, Lord. . . ." Beneath the picture you should give the topic, time, and place.

Program

Pre-Prayer Service
Hymn: *Trust and Obey*
Opening Scripture: Psalm 66:13-20
Prayer
Hymns: *O Jesus, I Have Promised*
I am Thine, O Lord
Introduction by Leader
Dialogue
The Hasty Heart
The Rash Voice
The Empty Hands
Moment of Decision
Closing Hymn: *Where He Leads Me*

Introduction by Leader

At the beginning of this year, all of America watched as a newly-elected man took the oath of office making him officially the President of the United States. In this oath every incoming president makes certain vows before God and the nation.

There is perhaps an entire world between this solemn ceremony and a man drifting helplessly on a life raft, lost at sea and praying for rescue. Yet quite often in time of war such a lone survivor, facing death, will turn to God in desperation and pray. Often the fear of the moment has made a man vow to perform certain tasks or meet specific needs in the world if God will save his life.

Both of these vows, according to Scripture, will be binding. We all make promises daily, and for most people there is a certain honor that compels them to keep such promises. However, we live in a world which laughs at such faithfulness. The case of the New Year's resolution will illustrate this. Have you ever heard a conversation that sounded something like this? John and Bill talk as they walk down the school corridor. (*Two members should take these parts.*)

Dialogue

John: Happy New Year!

Bill: Same to you. Make any resolutions?

John: Oh, I always try to think of something, usually something that won't matter.

Bill: Yes, I know. Once I made a resolution to tell the truth no matter what happened. But you just can't keep something like that!

John: One year I decided to read my Bible every day. I did it for a few weeks, but then. . . . Well, it isn't as if I had really made a promise.

Bill: No, it's mostly for laughs.

Leader: It is hard to say whether such resolutions are true promises or not, but our society does break the most serious and sacred vows. The marriage ceremony with the pledge of oneness "until death do us part" has been shattered again and again.

Some men who freely mouth the allegiance to our flag are actively planning the ruin of the democratic way of life.

Each week, in courtrooms across the land, a procession of witnesses raise their hand and swear to "tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God." And when this vow is made, they lapse into well-coached perjury that everyone expects and at which we often wink.

The Scripture is clear on the subject of vows made to God. (*The leader will read Ecclesiastes 5:1-6.*)

The Hasty Heart

The first two verses in this passage present the picture of a man stamping noisily into church, talking in a loud voice, and ready to do all of the outward things which will show that he has come to worship. He will not, however, sit quietly with bowed head and wait for God to speak to him. This is the man who gives the endless testimonies, whose prayers go on and on, as if the sheer weight of words will impress God. He cannot come to God simply and say, "God be merciful to me, a sinner!"

This is the hasty heart, ready to say anything to God, to promise everything. This same impulsive person will be just as ready to retreat from the promises he makes. And he has forgotten reverence for God. No Christian wants to return to ancient times when the children of God spoke to Him through a priest. Still we will have to find in the ease with which we talk to God a new awe so that we can say directly to Him, "Our Father, which art in heaven . . ."

The Rash Voice

Verses three and four go on to describe the rashness of a fool's voice that is known by a multitude of words. It is interesting that such a voice is compared to a dream. Many fascinating things can happen in a dream. One man will play the pirate and cut down his enemies one by one. Someone else will dream that he is an athlete and will see himself win every race. Sometimes a girl will picture herself singing before a huge crowd and bowing to tremendous applause. These things seem so real to the dreamer, but the instant must come when he will wake up to find that no true enemies are dead, no real races are won, and no great conquests are made.

The rash voice of a fool will speak to God in meaningless words, words that are as unreal as a dream. The Bible seems to assume that this person will not want to

pay his vow. God has no patience with this type of unfaithfulness.

The Empty Hands

The rest of the passage says this—It is better not to make a vow than to promise something and fail to do it. Don't make yourself commit a sin by promising too much with your mouth. And once you have promised, don't try to back out by saying that it was all a mistake, that you didn't mean to say it.

It is so much easier to wait a little while before marriage than it is to pick up the pieces when the vows are broken. It is perfectly honest to wait before taking the Christian Endeavor pledge if you are not sure of yourself, and far better than hastily taking the pledge and promptly breaking it. Many young people feel that they must commit their lives for full-time service on the mission field or in the home church. Yet we know that only a few of these actually fulfill such a vow.

What does verse six mean when it says that God will destroy the work of our hands if we break vows to Him? Does it mean perhaps that there is no real "second best," that unless we accept God's plan for us we come to Him with empty hands?

No one who attended a summer camp with Margaret B. will ever forget that week when she gave her life to God for missionary service. When she gave her testimony, making her vow to God known to everyone, she impressed even those who were sitting in the back row waiting for a chance to escape. Not a person there had any doubt but that she would be on the mission field one day.

Five years later this girl was married to a successful businessman; she was the mother of two children and outwardly content. But one conversation with her would reveal the misery in which she lived because she believed she had failed God. She said one day, "I know that I broke a covenant with God. Nothing I can do now will ever bring back the peace of knowing that I am in the will of God." The broken vow had left her standing before God with empty hands.

The Moment of Decision

We all face moments when we must decide, when we are forced to make vows or stay out of the stream of life. We have the promise of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We can turn to Him for strength in all things: strength and guidance in making wise promises, and equal strength with which to keep such promises.

(*The leader should suggest that all bow their heads in silent prayer to ask for God's guidance in making various decisions with which they are confronted. Some might lead in sentence prayers. The closing hymn might also be played softly during this period before it is sung.*)

*Mrs. Brown, now living with her four children in Van Nuys, California, is waiting to return to service as a Baptist missionary with her husband in Congo.

Are You Clock-Eyed?

No. 1 in a Series: "Timely Topics"

Psalm 90:1-12



Junior High (12-14 Years)

JULY 16

Comments by Rev. Harry A. Shuster, Jr.*

Advertising the Meeting

A good "doodler" with a little creative genius can make a poster picturing two or three bizarre characters named Oscar Overdue, Della Dilatory, Tommy Tardy, or Lilly Latently emphasizing the theme of the topic and inviting the young people to attend the Christian Endeavor service.

Seating for the Service

No matter how many young people are present, be certain to begin the meeting promptly. Those coming late will serve as good illustrative material for the ensuing discussion period.

Try to secure a number of clocks, preferably those with a loud ticking noise. Distribute these around the room. This feature will help to center the attention of the young people on the theme of the discussion.

Instead of arranging your chairs in rows with the speaker standing in front of the group, try arranging them in a semicircle. This will facilitate the sharing of ideas, and each young person will be able to direct his remarks before the group in a casual setting.

Topic Discussion

How to Prepare

Having prepared yourself for study through prayer, read Psalm 90:12 and Colossians 4:5b. Think upon these thought stimulants. Jot down any ideas which may come to you.

Now read the topic comments. Try to catch the progression of ideas. If the proposed questions to be put before the group are not suitable for you, reword them.

Fit into the presented discussion all of the ideas gleaned from your own creative study and those gathered from conversation with your counselor.

How to Begin

The pace of life of our day and age is well known to us all. Look at any street full of people in any city or town—everybody's hurrying some place or another. People are trying to cram things into their already overcrowded schedule. Mother's an officer in the P.T.A., and Dad's out making plans for the hometown Little League; Junior's all wrapped up with Cub Scouts, and being a cheer leader takes a great deal of one's time.

No wonder time is so precious to us. Still there are many of us who waste so many valuable minutes. With everyone so busy and with so much more that should be done, an honest look at the way we use or misuse our time is essential.

You know the people I'm talking about. Tommy Tardy never gets his assignments in

OUR AIMS

To consider and discuss the various ways in which time is misused and wasted.

To realize the Christian implication of this problem.

To discover patterns of behavior and attitudes which will help to utilize time in the best manner for Christ.

on time. Della Dilatory is always in detention room for invariably being late for school. Oscar Overdue can never be expected to be on time for a date. Lilly Latently never accepts her share of the group's responsibility because she says she always has so much to do.

How to Proceed

After these brief introductory remarks which you share with the group, give them a brief outline of the discussion so they know where they are going.

The first area for exploration will be to discover the effect which a tardy behavior pattern has upon the person and upon those with whom he comes into contact.

Perhaps the discussion will center around these ideas:

Such a person soon gets the reputation of being unreliable. Before long he is never considered for any responsibility. He loses valuable experiences of participation, and the group loses the use of his abilities.

The person soon loses friends. No one wants a friend who is always late. In school particularly, such a pattern pulls down grades and thus effects a person's college acceptance. It points to a certain unorderedliness in all areas of life.

Now discuss the effect this has upon a group, thinking specifically of your Christian Endeavor society. Here are a few thoughts:

Tardiness upsets the group's planned program. Your responsibility is only a small portion of a larger whole.

A hurriedly prepared Christian Endeavor topic can never be as effective as one which has been thought through and well planned; therefore, the whole group suffers.

Tardiness pulls down group moral and often causes embarrassment to the entire group. Latecomers in Christian Endeavor miss important parts of the service. Their coming late disrupts the service and the spirit.

After the problem has been fully discussed, raise the question, "Why is this a Christian concern?" with the emphasis on "Christian." Refer to the Scripture suggested in "How to Prepare."

The discussion might revolve around these centers of thought:

Generally speaking, the group may point to the fact that being prompt is a necessary personality trait of a respectable person. "But," someone might say, and rightly so, "Christianity is concerned about redeemed people, not respectable people." But the traits of the respectable and the redeemed coincide at some points, don't they?

To become more specific consider these ideas:

To be continually late is to be unmindful of others; it is a selfish attitude. A self-centered life is sinful. A God-centered life is Christian.

Time, like life itself, is a gift from God. It is not ours to do with as we please. It is given to us by God to use, and to use wisely. To waste it or to misuse it is to use it in a way that is displeasing to God.

To waste time in school, for example, is to become less of a person than what one has the capacity to become. It results in offering God a life for service inferior to what it might be. This is poor stewardship.

When God must use inferior instruments, His work is hindered. Recall before the group Augustine's words, "Without God we cannot; without us He will not."

Having become more keenly aware of the problem and the implications, the group should proceed to discover some of the practical ways in which they can save time, use time wisely, and cultivate promptness as a Christian virtue.

Lead your group into these areas of discussion.

Cultivate good study and reading habits so that you don't have to read and reread a page before you understand it. (This is absolutely essential for all college preparatory students.)

Associated with this is the power of concentration. How many times have you completed a reading assignment only to discover your mind was completely absorbed with something else?

Plan your work and your schedule of activities. Budget your time.

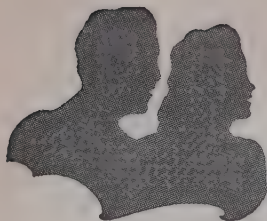
Don't try to cram too many things into a short period of time. Don't spread yourself too thin over too wide an area of activity. Otherwise you cannot devote enough time to do a good job in any of your interests.

When does a person waste his time in watching television or reading? When can engaging in these activities be considered using your time wisely?

How to Conclude

In conclusion suggest these thoughts: When a person seeks God, His love, His help, His encouragement, and His forgiveness in worship services, in Christian Endeavor, in private daily devotions, he is not only using his time wisely but also preparing himself so that in the future he will be able to save time. Such a person will not waste his time in deep periods of anxiety or guilt or frustration, for he will have cultivated a life which lives in close communion with God and which fulfills responsibilities with the consciousness that God is with him in all things. He will be able to accomplish much for Christ and the church.

Mr. Shuster is minister of Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church of Palmerton, Pennsylvania.



Momentous Moments

No. 2 in a Series: "Challenge for Decision"

Psalm 90:12-17

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

JULY 2

Comments by Dr. Lawrence M. Bixler*

Promoting the Meeting

This topic lends itself to advertising through posters. Several ideas could be used under the caption "Momentous Moments." One plan is a series of posters showing a couple being married, a portrayal of a young man choosing his lifework, a minister behind a pulpit, etc. These should stress the idea—"Are these your problems too? Let's talk them over at Christian Endeavor Sunday night."

Another idea would be to show two young people at the crossroads of decision. Then stress the idea that the Sunday evening meeting will be helpful in their decision-making.

A short skit could be worked up. In this could be portrayed people hindered by indecision and then making a decision which causes them to live more fruitfully. A little creative imagination could produce a skit suitable to your local situation.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1-7
Hymn: *I Surrender All*
Scripture Reading: Psalm 90:12-17
Hymn: *A Charge to Keep I Have*
Prayer: Have a few minutes of silent prayer and close with a guided prayer
Our Decisions
Problems for Discussion
Hymn: *I'll Live for Him*
Benediction

Our Decisions

One cannot live a normal life in this modern world without making decisions. In fact, when one cannot make decisions about the routine things of life, he is judged mentally ill. The normal personality develops through making more and more decisions, and more crucial ones.

This is the reason that adolescence is a particularly crucial time in the life of every person. During this period decisions are made which affect the entire future of the individual.

At this time in his life he is no longer a child. Physically, socially, mentally, and spiritually he is approaching the time that he will be expected to fill an adult role in the world. This means he must be productive. He must choose a vocation. He likewise wants a home and family of his own. His choices in regard to many things will affect his own ability to be a husband and a parent. It also means that in our culture he chooses a life partner. Adolescence is also the period in which he develops a philosophy of life, Christian or otherwise.

*Dr. Bixler is professor of Bible and Christian Education at Northwest Christian College, Eugene, Oregon.

PURPOSE OF THE TOPIC

This topic is a continuation of the consideration of the importance of vows to the Christian. The former topic gave consideration to the danger of making careless vows.

Consider tonight the fact that vows and promises can become a constructive force in Christian living. Discuss specific vows which are made during the sacred moments in our lives. Stress the positive blessings which are received from making vows before God.

Men can make great decisions because they have committed themselves to great principles or causes. The commitment often comes through vows made at particular times. Vows are in the nature of a determination to do or be certain things.

The Christian must make his decisions in the light of the will and purpose of God. It is important for him to make and keep vows to God. In Psalm 50:14,15 we read: "Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."

Because God is God, praise and obedience are due Him. Thus when one decides to accept Christ as Lord, it must be from a determined heart. Repentance is a type of a vow. Our confession of faith in Christ certainly is entering into a covenant with Him. Without these momentous moments there would be no real commitment to Christ, nor would there be any growth in Him.

Quite frequently men judge themselves worthless because they have neither made nor kept promises which are of significance. While man is not justified by his works, works do indicate the vitality of one's faith. (See James 2:18-26.)

Paul admonished the Corinthians that each one must give as he has made up his mind to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (II Corinthians 9:7). In referring to their forthcoming gift he said that it had been promised (II Corinthians 9:5). Most of us would do little for the Lord without some kind of a commitment. Our vows give stability to our service to the Lord.

There is no greater commendation than "you have been faithful over a little." Faithfulness implies that through the proper decisions and determination one has done the proper thing. God judges upon the basis of how we use what He has given us. In the parable of talents (Matthew 25:14-30) this truth is illustrated. At some moment each made a decision as to what he would do with what he had. These decisions affected each person's destiny. Likewise our own decisions affect our eternal destiny.

Problems for Discussion

1. Some people make vows to accomplish things which are far beyond their ability

to achieve. Because they cannot achieve these goals they feel that they are complete failures. Is this true? How can we see ideals and yet not be frustrated by them?

2. There are those who refuse to make vows because they fear that they will not be able to live up to them. Is this a good attitude?

3. We should not make foolish vows such as Jephthah's vow related in Judges 11:30-40. But we also see the value of making vows during the sacred moments in our lives. What are some of these sacred high moments?

4. How do vows help us in the Christian life? How have you been helped by some vow you have made to God?

Resources

Donald Maynard, *Looking Toward Christian Marriage*, Chapter 6.

Clyde Narramore, *Young Only Once*.

Dwight Small, *Design for Christian Marriage*, Chapter 11.

Resource Leaders

Since this meeting stresses the importance of vows which are related to several high moments in life, you might ask several people to share as resource leaders.

1. You might ask an engaged person to tell the meaning of engagement. Ask the person to stress the seriousness of marriage and the role that engagement plays in the serious preparation for marriage. The earnestness of becoming engaged should be stressed.

2. A second resource leader who might be especially qualified to speak upon marriage and the importance of its vows would be your minister, a Christian lawyer, or a Christian schoolteacher or counselor. Each would be qualified to lead the group into a consideration of the marriage vows.

3. You also might ask one or more of your church officers to present the meaning of their vows to serve Christ in daily living. It will be important to have ample time for questions and discussion by the group.

4. Another plan would be to have a panel of four of your members to discuss the four greatest moments in young people's lives. One way would be to have four young people who would select different moments. Ask each to tell why he believes that this is the greatest moment of decision for Christian youth. Another plan would be to assign a great moment to each one and have him discuss the importance of this moment. The panel members could then ask each other questions and even make contributions to one another's discussion. There should be opportunity for the group itself to direct questions to the panel.

Sunday—So What!

No. 2 in a Series: "Timely Topics"

Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11



Junior High (12-14 Years)

JULY 23

Comments by Mrs. Richard Cattermole*

Sunday—This Is What!

We have been exposed so long to a non-Christian first day of the week that we lose sight of the dangers of it. The aim of this topic is to remind youth that one of the surest signs of national decay is the lowering of standards of observance of the Lord's Day. Strive to make your group see that though you are a small number, when you stand up as a Christian witness your testimonies will count because the power of God is behind you!

Try to remind your fellow Endeavorers that Sunday can be a day to be looked forward to—a day in which Christians can draw closer to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. This should be presented in the form of a challenge, showing youth that if they determine to make their Sundays count for God, they will be truly blessed by Him.

For the Counselor

This will not be an easy lesson to put across, because it is not a subject about which teen-agers are ready to get excited unless they are guided into it. That will be your job. First, you must be convinced yourself. To be convinced, write for literature from The Lord's Day Alliance of the United States, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. This organization is prepared to give many facts and figures which would be an incentive to get your young people doing something about observance of the Lord's Day.

Be careful that you urge a positive approach to this subject. Too often it is easier to dwell on what *not* to do on Sunday rather than to emphasize the things we should be striving to accomplish on the day the "Lord hath ordained."

Publicity Ideas

1. Have the hymn *O Day of Rest and Gladness* by Christopher Wordsworth (arr. by Lowell Mason) either sung as a solo or recited or merely read aloud in your teen-age Sunday school department. Follow this with announcement about your Christian Endeavor meeting, giving all the details.
2. Look up a quotation about the Lord's Day by a famous person and ask that it be read in your church bulletin along with the announcement of your meeting.

Suggested Debate Theme

As an added feature in your meeting have a short (but well-prepared) debate on the controversial question as to whether it is practical today to enforce observance of the Lord's Day. It could be headed like this: resolved, that it is still possible in our modern world to enforce observance of the Lord's Day.

Mrs. Cattermole is counselor for the young people's society at Faith Evangelical Congregational Church, Temple, Pennsylvania.

The following are one or two suggestions for each side. Choose at least two people for "pro" and two for "con" who will give a little thought and research to the subject and be prepared to argue their points (within a given time, of course).

Pro: The Bible was not meant merely for the times in which it was written, but for all generations to come. Therefore anything contained in it is applicable (as written) for our day.

Con: In our present-day world it is not only impractical but impossible to make people observe the Lord's Day. Our economic situation makes it necessary for many to work on Sunday and to have the opportunity to carry on regular daily duties seven days per week.

(Under the Topic Discussion you might find more material for the debate, but try to make those taking part look elsewhere for some additional arguments.)

Topic Discussion

"Cross Purposes"

Whenever we think of the Lord's Day or Sabbath, and the references made to it in the Bible, we think of the conflict and of the "hard time" the religious leaders of Jesus' day on earth gave Him in regard to Sabbath observance. It boils down to the two alternatives—was man "made for the Sabbath" or the Sabbath "made for man"?

The Pharisees said that man was made to observe the Sabbath and endeavored to enforce the whole law, which included the forbidding of thirty-nine main kinds of work on the Sabbath. When the disciples plucked corn on the Sabbath, they violated the third of these rules which forbade harvesting. Then in healing the sick Jesus broke the rule which said that a sick man should not receive medical aid on the Sabbath unless his life was in danger. These rules were aimed at absolute rest on the Sabbath from anything that resembled work. The word "Sabbath" originally meant to "desist from" although it later came to mean to "cease from labor." The Old Testament Jew was told to attend the synagogue and to worship on the Sabbath, but otherwise the approach was negative—all "do not's"!

On the other hand, Jesus said that the Sabbath was meant as a day of rest for man, was "made for man." He emphasized that to do good on the Sabbath was far more important than to refrain from doing certain things. He performed at least seven miracles of healing on the Sabbath and insisted it was lawful to do these acts.

"From Seventh to First"

After Jesus was crucified, and was buried, and rose again on the third day, that Resurrection Day being the first day of the week, it became the Christian Lord's Day and took the place of the Jewish Sabbath. By this means the Resurrection, the most important event in all time, is celebrated

every week. In the earliest times of the Christian Church certain Christian Jews continued to observe both the seventh day and the first day. Paul's writings indicate that the Old Testament Sabbath is not binding on the Christian.

Through the centuries in the Christian Church the Lord's Day or Sunday has come to be referred to as the Christian Sabbath.

"Review the Scriptures"

Look up the two Scripture references given with this topic, and pick out the words "blessed," "sanctified," and "hallowed." These terms describe what God has promised for our Sabbath observance. Thus when we consider that He meant us to be happy and rejoice in the day He planned for our spiritual enrichment, we take a different view of Sunday.

The Dutch call Sunday "God's dike." They know the value of dikes. Their very lives depend on them. So the child of God should know the value of the day He has given.

We should use the Lord's Day to advance our spiritual lives—to bring us closer to our Lord. Let us discuss some of the things we should strive to include in our Sundays which would help us do this:

1. **Rest.** The body needs rest, or it does not function properly. This rest should be for our soul and mind as well as our body. Sunday should be a time of spiritual refreshment, to carry us, as expressed in the words of the old hymn, "safely through another week."
2. **Worship.** This is of course foremost in our thinking, and should be. We should not worship God only one day in seven, but we should set aside that day for formal worship and fellowship with other Christians, along with the opportunities to be instructed in God's Word by His representatives, our ministers or pastors and Sunday school teachers.
3. **Good Deeds.** We should try to find as many "good" things to do on Sundays as we possibly can. Make that telephone call to encourage a friend; visit sick folks and shut-ins; hold services in hospitals, orphanages, and old folks' homes (as a Christian Endeavor group); and spend time in the fellowship of families and close friends.

Practical Problems to Discuss

1. What if—a teenager has a part-time job and must work all day Sunday?
2. What if—a local sports team plays important games on Sunday afternoon?
3. What if—a Christian young person from a non-Christian family is taken to places where he doesn't want to go on Sunday?
4. What if—you travel with a crowd who feels Sunday is the time to swim, bowl, skate, etc.?



Time Will Tell

No. 3 in a Series: "Challenge for Decision"

Ecclesiastes 12:1-4; James 4:13-15

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

JULY 30

Comments by Rev. Raymond C. Steinhart*

For the Leader

Take an extra good look at this topic. It has something to say about time. After you have thoroughly thought about this topic, take a good look at the clock on the wall or your own wrist watch. What *will* time tell? Now think about it.

How much time should you devote to this topic? You can always tell if you have put in the proper amount of time. If you have, you will have an inner sense of satisfaction. You will be enriched with an eagerness to share with others all the wonderful things that have come to you in your study and research.

You can make this a wonderful meeting. Ask several members of your society to take part in the discussion. Assign talks or questions to them beforehand and meet with them early for a pre-prayer service. Pray often about the meeting. It is important that your own heart is prepared as well as your mind.

Around the Clock

Arrange the chairs in a circle. Before each one place a number (from 1 to 12 or 1 to 24 according to the size of your group) denoting the hours of the day. Place two large pointers in the center of the circle as the hour and minute hands on the clock.

When various assignments are made for the meeting, give each one a separate number. Explain your plan in the meeting. It will not be necessary to call a name when it is time for a certain assignment; merely set the hour hand for the number of that assignment.

Publicity

Get several alarm clocks and place them in the church where youth will see them on Sunday morning. Print small posters and place one behind each clock to announce the topic, the time, and the place of meeting. You might also mail a similar card to each member during the week.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Call to Worship
Hymn: *Give of Your Best to the Master*
Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 12:1-4;
James 4:13-15
Prayer Hymn: *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*
Objective Prayer: Pray for specific individuals and groups
Special Number
Announcements and Offering
Leader's Talk
Talks by Three Speakers
Questions for Discussion
Hymn: *Where He Leads Me*
Fellowship Circle
Benediction

*Mr. Steinhart is pastor of the First Evangelical Congregational Church, Easton, Pennsylvania.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. It is said that it never pays to skimp on things of the soul and that it is never profitable to give God the beggar's portion. What relation do these sayings have to the use of our time?
2. What is a fair portion of time to give to the work of the church apart from the Lord's Day services?
3. What division of time should one make concerning his various interests?
4. What do we intimate when we say, "I would like to do it, but I don't have the time"?
5. What will time tell if we become careless of the planning and promotion of our Christian Endeavor work? What does time tell us already as we consider our society?

Leader's Talk

This is a striking topic which is applicable to all of us. Every day of our life time is trying to say something to us, but we do not take the time to listen.

However, this is a foolish attitude. Consider what some illustrious men and women have said about the importance of time. Bacon said, "To choose time is to save time." A great philosopher wrote, "The great rule of moral conduct is, next to God, to respect time." Hans Christian Andersen said, "Time is so fleeting that if we do not remember God in our youth, age may find us incapable of thinking about Him." Another great man said, "He lives long that lives well, and time misspent is not lived, but lost." Consider that you cannot make a single moment, but there are people who waste years. Queen Elizabeth I once said, "All my possessions for a moment of time." All these realized the importance of listening to what time tells.

Let us listen to some of the things which time has to tell us. Three of our members will now give these talks for time.

First Speaker

Time was before man came, and time will remain after man is gone. A certain amount of time is given to each of us to use as an asset. Each hour is a golden opportunity for good and for God.

Arnold Bennett wrote, "I have seen an essay, 'How to live on eight shillings a week.' But I have never seen an essay, 'How to live on twenty-four hours a day'." A supply of time is provided to each of us as a daily miracle. We woke up this morning, and there we had it—a full day of 24 hours. It is a most precious possession which we all share alike. Nobody can take it from us. We make of it pleasure, money, contentment, respect, and all the things with which our lives are filled.

One of the best uses of our time is the improvement of our minds. We need to read good books. We must keep abreast with the world, the church, the Christian Endeavor movement, and the missionary interests of our time.

We also need to spend time in the development of our souls. We need to observe the Quiet Hour daily and use our lives always as members of the Tenth Legion.

And we need to use time to develop our bodies as well. Many youth are weak or sick because they have misused their bodies. At every turn of our lives, time will tell how well we have used this gift which God has given us.

Second Speaker

The wise use of time will bring many good results in our lives. Some of us do not really have a clear concept of how to use our time wisely because we have yielded to the current craze of trying to get ahead of everybody else. It is displayed at the red traffic light. We are held back 20 seconds; we wait nervously; and then away we go before it gets off amber. We need to take time to consider just how we spend our time and use it more wisely and deliberately.

Wise use of time will reveal several things to us. First, it will assure us that we are children of God and on the path of victory over sin and death. Secondly, it will provide peace and joy unspeakable as we devote ourselves to consecrated living. Thirdly, it will remind us that we have invested wisely in the service of Christ and the church. If a cup of water given in the name of Christ has a special reward, think what the reward will be for one who truly invests his life in the service of the Lord!

And wise use of our time will also reveal to us that sincere effort will reach others for Christ and help our society become stronger and more influential in our community. Too often we stop too soon. Continued effort and dependence on the Holy Spirit will make it possible for us to see the fruits of our labors in time.

Third Speaker

Time will bring evil results if we neglect the things of God. We have been admonished to grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ (II Peter 3:18). When we confess Him as our Saviour and Lord, we have within us a strong desire to serve Him to the best of our ability. We know that our loyalty cannot be divided and that we cannot serve two masters at the same time. But we must cling to these convictions and concentrate on the things of Christ if we are to mature as Christians.

Neglect of prayer or Bible study or church attendance will hinder our spiritual growth and hold us back as Christians. If we neglect any of these, time will tell that we must suffer the consequences.

Time is taking all of us somewhere—to either reward or condemnation. But we have something to say about the outcome because we make the decision as to the investment of our time. We can so invest our lives for Christ and the church that time and eternity will be a blessing instead of a curse to us.

Time Will Tell

No. 3 in a Series: "Timely Topics"

Ecclesiastes 12



Junior High (12-14 Years)

JULY 30

Comments by Mrs. George West*

Suggested Program Outline

Opening Song: *I Need Jesus*
Opening Prayer
Song Service: *Trusting Jesus; There's a New Day Dawning; Battle Hymn of the Republic*
Announcements and Offering
Special Music: *Begin Each Day with Jesus*
Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 12
Benediction Prayers
Topic Discussion
Questions for Discussion
Closing Song: *Living for Jesus*
Closing Prayer

Poster

Make a poster that says *Wake Up; It Is Later Than You Think!* Draw a large old-fashioned alarm clock that stands on little legs with the alarm pulled out on top and buzzing away shaking the whole clock. Underneath print in large letters *Time Will Tell on You.* In smaller letters write *Can you Account for It? Come on time to Junior High Christian Endeavor.* Add details of your meeting.

The Gift of Time

"Time and tide wait for no man" is a familiar phrase to all of us. Have you thought what it really means? We cannot stop the clock, nor can we hold back the tide. God controls these things. Indeed, He has complete command of all things. Since turning back the clock is so impossible, and since it won't wait for us, we must keep up with it. More than keeping up with it, we must make the most of it. Time is valuable because it is so limited. It is like vapor, here for an instant and never to return again. It is like grass that grows today and then withers tomorrow. Time is essential for the important things in a life. We need time to sleep and rest, time to eat properly, time to prepare strong bodies so we can serve the Lord. It takes time to build strong bodies and strong character.

We are given a specific interval of time to use as we see fit. God gives us this interval and places in our hands the full responsibility of it. For this we must give an account one day. What will you account for? What will I account for? Will it be for time wasted or time so well spent that rewards will be heaped upon us?

Too Late

It is sometimes too late. It was too late for Judas. Do you recall the story of Judas in Matthew 27:1-10? Judas sold Jesus, as it

OUR AIMS

To realize that time does not return.
To understand that we are held responsible by God for the use of our time.
To be convinced that now is the accepted time of salvation.
To determine to use our time wisely as we mature as Christians.

were, for a few pieces of silver. When he saw Jesus was condemned, he repented and again brought the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders saying, "I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood." And they said, "What is that to us?" Then Judas threw down the silver in the temple and went and hanged himself. It was too late for Judas.

Judas had a wrong set of values in life. Material wealth obviously had a grasp on him. It had such a hold on him he could not see or think clearly. His values were so warped, so degenerated, so false that he sold for a price the most precious one ever to walk this earth.

We can lose our sense of value just this easily if we turn our eyes from the Lord to things of this world. It is later than we think. Time for our existence on this earth will soon be gone. None of us knows how much time he has.

What kind of stewards of time are we? We often think of stewardship pertaining to tithes and offerings. But God has made us stewards of talents and time as well. How are we spending it? Are we using it wisely or foolishly? Are we doing things for the Lord, such as witnessing, serving, working, reading the Word, praying, and loving one another? God knows how every minute is spent. We can fool others, but never God.

Time for Salvation

(Read II Corinthians 6:2.) Our purpose for being on earth can never be realized until we have accepted Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord. We are here to serve God and to share the Gospel with all men everywhere, but we can be of no use whatsoever until we have accepted Christ ourselves.

II Timothy 2:15 urges us to be workmen approved of God who have no need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But we cannot understand the Word of God and be obedient to God's commandments until we have become followers of Christ.

Luke 18:1 states that Jesus taught that men should pray always and seek God's help in all things. But we have received no promise that our prayers will be heard and answered unless they are expressed through Jesus Christ as Lord.

There is danger in delay. It is time for each one of us to accept Jesus Christ as

our Lord in order that we may pray effectively to God, that we may read His Word with understanding, and that we may be of usefulness in His service. NOW is the day of salvation!

Real Life Situation

Richard was student body president of his school and very popular indeed. He was a busy fellow carrying out the duties of his office to the best of his abilities. Time was not heavy on his hands. In fact, he was so busily wrapped up in this responsibility that he had no time to get a perspective of the future and the hereafter. Dick hadn't time to think about what is going to happen after this life on earth until one day he found himself in the hospital with tuberculosis. He was so busy spinning wheels that many really important things were wrong in his life, even though it appeared his time was well spent.

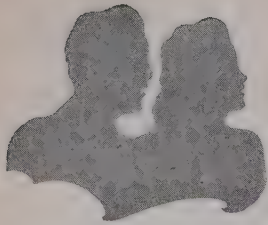
Dick hadn't taken time to eat three square meals a day. He was too busy for much lunch, and he rushed out of the house too fast in the morning for breakfast. He studied late at night to keep up his grades. He wanted good grades to keep up his popularity. But in all this haste and rush, Richard had forgotten the really important things that come first in life—strength, physical, spiritual, and mental. Never did he consider the real source of strength. He had missed completely the importance of fellowship with the Lord and dependence on Him.

As he lay in bed, a Bible club student spoke to him about his need of the Saviour. He had plenty of time to think things through. He had plenty of time to get the right perspective of life. When he saw his need of Christ, he accepted Him and became a member of the church. He began to read God's Word, and to communicate with Him in prayer. He would spend hours meditating about the Lord. He knew a new life, a real fellowship he had missed before, for he had been too busy to see his greatest need. Richard returned to good health and once again became a leader of the student body. He was much better prepared this time because he took time to commune with God and to receive daily strength from Him.

Questions for Discussion

1. How important is it to use time wisely when we are young? What effect will our use of time now have on our future lives?
2. Are we wholly responsible for the use of our time?
3. How does time help build Christian character?
4. How important is it for youth to eat well-balanced meals and to get adequate rest? Do these things have any bearing on our Christian service?

*Mrs. West sponsors a post-college and professional Christian Endeavor group at Brooklyn Heights Presbyterian Church in San Diego, California, and has held many offices in the state union.



Little Foxes

No. 1 in a Series: "Counsel for Conduct"

Song of Solomon 2:15

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

AUGUST

Comments by Mrs. R. E. LeRiche*

Getting Ready

Read through the entire topic to get the over-all picture. Then go back and make a list of those you wish to take the several parts. Print in large letters on construction paper the seven subheads, each on a separate color if possible, under the heading *Things God Hates*. On the back of each one, write the Scripture reference given as the cure for that particular difficulty. Just before the meeting, give these to the ones who will use them. On separate paper, write each subhead and the suggested Scripture references for that evil and also the reference for the cure. Give these out well in advance, for these talks need to be well prepared.

At the meeting pin the printed subhead to the speaker so that his hands will be free to use his notes and his Bible. As he finishes his talk, he then unpins the paper and turns it over. Everyone can then find the reference and read it in unison.

For the second part of the topic *Telling It Straight*, have ready four stories. Have them written, for that is your sure proof of the original. You will read the story to the first person, and you will also read it again after it has been told to the four or five who have been participating. Have stories about people you know and happening in places you know. Do not confuse the issue with hard names or unknown facts. Have a dish of wrapped candy or pieces of gum on the table. For those who correctly repeat the story the way they heard it, give them a reward.

Leader's Introduction

The small things in life often are the basis of lasting habits that help to form our character. This topic is intended to point out how great these things really become before we realize what a hold they have on us. As a result of this discussion we hope we can correct some of our difficulties.

(Read Song of Solomon 2:15.)

It was the small foxes that destroyed the green grapes; they did not wait until the grapes were ripe. They prevented them from maturing. Insects and pests destroy the young, tender plants, thus preventing them from ever maturing enough to bring forth a crop. So it is that little sins often destroy the objectives in a young life and cause it to be less pleasing to the Lord and less helpful to others.

What are some of these little sins God hates in our lives? (Read Proverbs 6:16-19. Ask those who have the seven talks to give them in order and in the manner described in *Getting Ready for the Meeting*, above.)

*Mrs. LeRiche, vice president of the International Society in charge of the Pacific Region, lives in Seattle, Washington.

Things God Hates

1. PROUD LOOK

After all, what do we have to make us so proud and vain? For your talk, consult Proverbs 21:1-4; Proverbs 16:5-8; Ezekiel 13:3-9; and James 4:5,6. THE CURE: I John 2:15-17.

2. LYING TONGUE

The tongue is one of the smallest parts of our bodies, but what trouble it gets us into! For your talk, consult James 4:11; Psalm 31:18-20; Psalm 119:162-168; Psalm 120:1-4; and Proverbs 21:6. THE CURE: Proverbs 12:12-22.

3. HANDS THAT SHED INNOCENT BLOOD

We can kill people's feelings and ambitions as well as their reputations. For your talk, consult James 2:9-12; James 5:6, 9; and Jeremiah 2:34. THE CURE: Romans 13:8-10.

4. WICKED IMAGINATIONS

We can get ourselves into difficulty by imagining things about ourselves as well as by thinking things about others that are not so. For your talk, consult Genesis 6:5; Luke 1:51; Proverbs 10:25-30; and Romans 1:21-23. THE CURE: I Corinthians 13:4-10.

5. FEET THAT RUN INTO MISCHIEF

Some people are easily led into mischief. This kind of person must choose carefully his companions so he will be led in the right direction. For your talk, consult Proverbs 24:1,2,8,9,16-22; and Psalm 94:20-23. THE CURE: Psalm 36:5-12.

6. FALSE WITNESS

We are commended not to bear false witness against anyone. See Deuteronomy 5:20 and Matthew 19:18. Sometimes we are not guilty of saying false things, but we do not defend the person wronged. Are we not then agreeing with the one who bears false witness? See also Proverbs 12:17-20; 14:5-8; and 19:5,9. THE CURE: Ephesians 4:31,32.

7. SOWING DISCORD

Probably no one is more contemptible than one who deliberately sows seeds of discord to build himself up to be somebody. For your talk, consult Proverbs 6:12-15; Romans 14:10; and Job 4:8. THE CURE: Romans 15:1-3; Proverbs 18:24.

LEADER: It can be seen from these Scripture references that all of us do things which displease God. It is only as we put our trust in Him and rely on Him to guide us that we can hope to be pleasing to Him. (Read Ephesians 4:22-29.)

Telling It Straight

Divide the group into three teams. Explain you are going to test their ability to repeat a story correctly. Ask all members of a team to leave the room except one. The leader reads the story to him. A second member comes in, and the first tells him the story. A third is then told the story by the second, and so on. After all the team has come back and each one has

repeated what he heard, the leader reads again the original story. Those who have repeated correctly the story as they heard it receive a piece of candy or gum. Repeat this for the other teams. At the end have all of those who received the awards go out. Tell another story, and this time expect perfect results.

This is a suggested type of story: Tom was the newly elected president. He was very anxious to improve the whole activity of his Christian Endeavor society. As he read the Program Guide, he decided to have a Planning Session for the year's activities as described. He announced the meeting for 3:00 P.M. on Friday. The society would have a potluck supper and proceed during the evening, planning the general program and each committee's responsibility. He urged all committee chairmen to come prepared with suggestions and everyone to be on time.

Tom asked Alice to go with him on a picnic to a nearby park because he wanted to talk over the ideas he had for the year's program. Just as they were ready to leave for the meeting, Alice discovered she had lost her class pin. Frantically they combed the grass and searched the picnic basket. At last they found it and ran to the car. "Oh!" moaned Tom, "a flat tire! Now what can we do to get there on time?"

This is the story! Any ad libbing on what happened is NOT in this story. (But do try the planning session in your society. It will take the patchwork quilt out of your program!)

Practicing Some Virtues

Assign some members of your society the responsibility of presenting some situations which show up such "little foxes" as pettiness, selfishness, intolerance, and white lies.

For instance, someone who is not selected as a committee chairman refuses to work on any committee. How can this be overcome? Or a certain person has a host of ideas to suggest all the time, but he never carries out an assignment adequately or on time. How can this selfishness be overcome? Or have one of the girls come in wearing a terrible looking hat which she obviously is very fond of as she asks, "How do you like my hat?" How can you answer her without resorting to white lies?

Conclusion

In the sight of God is sin graded? (Read James 2:10.) This verse does not mean that if we have broken the law in one place, we might as well break all the law. But in God's sight sin is sin, and if we have broken any part of the law of God, we are guilty. If one link in a chain is broken, the part beyond the break is useless until it is repaired. So we are guilty until we have asked to be forgiven of God, and of man also if we have wronged someone. Let's not let little sins ruin our witness as followers of Christ!

Anchors that Hold

Psalms 18:1-3; 46:1-3; Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 27:13-19



Junior High (12-14 Years)

AUGUST 6

Comments by Miss Pearl F. Reed*

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What is the importance of the first 25 words of the Christian Endeavor pledge?
2. How does the Christian Endeavor pledge provide strength for youth each day?
3. How can the basic principles of Christian Endeavor serve as anchors to hold Christian youth close to Christ?
4. What are some decisions which are important for youth to make now?
5. What are some good habits for Christian youth to develop?
6. What are some hobbies which can provide adequate diversion for Christian youth? What are some hobbies that may be harmful in the growth of Christian youth?
7. What does it mean to have anchors that hold?

that hold them steadfast when the sailing is rough. Teen-agers face major problems. Many decisions made now will determine moral standards for life. Through prayer and the counsel of parents or worthy adults, it is important that we now make plans for the following: our lifework and the proper education for it; hobby interests that will be relaxing, educational, worthwhile, and lasting; personal habits that will not harm our bodies physically, mentally, or spiritually, but that will help them to grow properly; and definite standards for life now that we may have the answers before problems confront us head-on.

Statistics tell us that 40% of the crimes in the United States in 1960 were committed by youth under sixteen years of age. We'll study tonight five anchors that will hold us firm for Christ if we will depend upon them.

"Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ"

(First speaker, holding one anchor, may give talk on following, and at conclusion, place his anchor securely about the rock)

The first twenty-five words of the Christian Endeavor pledge are the most important, but the first eight words emphasize the strength of the whole Christian Endeavor movement. We need only to trust in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and He will see us through every temptation, trial, sorrow, perplexity, or burden. A favorite Scripture passage of many says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). He will never fail us. He notes the fall of the sparrow, and He promises to be with us always. Trust in Him, and He will help you solve your problems. Lean heavily upon Him, and He will hold you up in any situation.

"Confession of Christ"

(Second speaker, holding anchor, may give talk on following)

The first of the four cardinal principles of Christian Endeavor is "Confession of Christ." Through Christian Endeavor, we come to learn more about Christ, to know Him and His teachings better, and to dis-

cover His plan for our lives. We are taught that each one who claims to be Christian, who receives Christ as personal Saviour should make a public confession of this belief. Romans 10:9 says, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." We must be proud to be identified with Him; we must live as to be worthy of bearing His own name in the name "Christian."

"Service for Christ"

(Third speaker, holding anchor, may give talk on following)

"Service for Christ" is the second of the cardinal principles of Christian Endeavor. When we have accepted Christ as Saviour and so confess Him, we have a natural desire to serve Him. Many young people dedicate their lives to Christ in full-time Christian service. If He calls us to serve Him, we dare not say no. The majority are not called to serve Him in full-time Christian vacations, but He demands our full-time loyalty and zeal. John 12:26 states, "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be; if any man serve me, him will my Father honor." Let us claim this promise together as we serve Christ in all we do.

"Loyalty to Christ's Church"

(Fourth speaker, holding anchor, may give talk on following)

The third cardinal principle asks for our "loyalty to Christ's Church." A true and sincere Christian Endeavorer will be loyal to his own church, attending all services regularly, supporting it financially, and speaking well of it, its pastor, and its leaders. As a nation divided against itself cannot stand, neither can a church. Loyal youth are needed by the church today. Acts 20:28 advises, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with his own blood." He paid the supreme price for the church, and now we receive the call to loyalty.

"Fellowship With Christ's People"

(Fifth speaker, holding anchor, may give talk on following)

The last of the four principles is "Fellowship with Christ's People." Our Lord teaches us to love our neighbor as ourselves. He created all men equal. Nationality, language, color, race, or creed are not to be barriers. Christian Endeavor is international, interdenominational, and interracial. All of us are brothers in Christ. Our own Christian Endeavor chapter, Romans 12, in the tenth verse (as translated by J. B. Phillips) says, "Let us have real warm affection for one another as between brothers, and a willingness to let the other man have the credit." Let us share with one another the love which Christ has for all of us.

to the Leader

This topic, coming at this season of the year, can be very attractively and interestingly presented out-of-doors. By its very possibilities, be challenged to make great effort to publicize the meeting that new young people might come, that old-timers might return, and that "old faithfuls" may receive a new blessing.

Plan in advance. Secure a committee to make a boat scene. (Possibly the service could be held using a real boat, even at a beach or pool.) Use furniture covered with sheets, blue crepe paper with chalk markings to indicate waves, inflated auto tubes covered with white crepe paper and placed along side of boat for lifesavers. Write the name CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR on the boat and the word CHRIST on a large rock. Make five anchors and chains from cardboard, and secure five members to participate in the meeting.

Ask the pastor to announce the meeting in the bulletin and from the pulpit. Plan the meeting so that it will be worth advertising. If it is to be held in your church yard, perhaps it could be set up in advance where it could be seen by the morning church worshippers so that interest might be aroused. Send out invitations to "go sailing." This could even be an all-church Galilean service. Invite parents and other adults as well.

Remember that this should also be a consecration meeting (first Sunday of the month). In advance, tell the members they will be asked to respond to their names at the roll call with a testimony on "How God Speaks to Me in Nature."

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Prelude: *Beyond the Sunset*
Hymn: *This Is My Father's World*
Prayer by Leader
Hymn: *Trusting Jesus*
Topic Scripture Readings
Prayer (Suggested prayer thoughts by leader)
Hymn: *The Stranger by the Sea or I Surrender All*
Announcements and Offering
Special Music
Introduction of Topic by Leader
Questions for Discussion
Consecration Service
Closing Hymn: *God's Way My Way or O Jesus, I Have Promised*
Mizpah Benediction

Topic Introduction

As leader, introduce the topic by explaining that Christian Endeavorers are extremely fortunate in having five major "anchors"

*Miss Reed is director of Christian Endeavor and church secretary of First Church of Evans, Derby, New York.



Willful Sinning

No. 2 in a Series: "Counsel for Conduct"

Titus 2:11-15; II Timothy 3:1-5

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

AUGUST 1

Comments by Rev. Walter C. Schaeffer*

To the Leader

Perhaps you have heard the story of the preacher who preached one Sunday morning on sin. Two parishioners were commenting on the sermon as they walked to their homes, and one observed, "The parson was sure full of his subject." To make this meeting helpful, you must be "full of your subject" in the sense that you know what the Bible has to say about the origin of sin, its effects on man, and its cure. Be sure to read the Scripture references listed under Daily Readings on page 26 as well as those given throughout the topic material.

For publicity you may be able to find a picture of a Biblical scene concerning sin, such as the picture of Moses coming down Mt. Sinai to find the Israelites worshipping the golden calf. Use this as the center of a poster. Or a picture of a broken home or some other tragedy may serve as a basis for a poster.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Call to Worship: Psalm 119:11,12
Hymn: *Begin Each Day with Jesus*
Scripture Reading: Titus 2:11-15; II Timothy 3:1-5
Hymn: *I Need Jesus*
Sentence Prayers
Special Number
Presentation of Topic
Discussion of Questions
Hymn: *My Jesus, I Love Thee*
Friendship Circle and Benediction

Leader's Introduction

There are several Greek words used in the New Testament which are translated "sin." The one used most often means a missing of the mark. The other frequently used word means transgression. Thus we may conclude that sin means to displease God by deliberately breaking His law, or to displease God by failing to accomplish what He wants us to do. Though it may take a little studying on our part, it is relatively easy to know what God's laws are. It is not always so easy to discover what God wants us to do. This requires Scripture reading, but it also involves meditation and prayer so that God's will may be determined.

Kinds of Sin

To become more specific about what we mean when we speak of sin we must turn to the Bible. Most of us do not think we are very serious sinners. After all, we argue, we are not guilty of serious crimes and we have never been locked up in jail; so we cannot be too bad. This is a very super-

QUESTIONS

1. Can a person be really sorry for a willful sin?
2. What are some ways in which we hurt other people by our sins?
3. Can any action be sin for one person and not for another?
4. Can we fool God about our sins? Do we ever try to fool Him?

ficial view of sin. Scripture says that a man may be and often is guilty of what may be called inner sin, sin that involves our thoughts. (Read *Genesis 8:21; Jeremiah 17:9; Matthew 5:28; Acts 8:21; and I John 3:15*.) Then there are outward sins. (Read *Matthew 12:36; Galatians 5:19-21*.)

There are sins we commit deliberately which we might call voluntary sins (read *Isaiah 3:9; and Romans 1:32*) as well as involuntary sins which we commit without realizing it (read *Numbers 15:22,24*). We commit sins directly against God (read *Psalm 14:1; Romans 1:21-23; Exodus 20:3,7; and Proverbs 8:36*.) There are sins committed by ourselves as well as sins of others in which we participate.

Results of Sin

We are not to be fooled by words that are substituted for "sin." Some talk about complexes and phobias and neuroses, when they mean unrighteousness, lack of faith, and weak will. Sometimes we talk about "social sins" in terms of alcoholism, corruption, and segregation when we really mean drunkenness, greed, and prejudice. But disguise sin as we will, it is always sure that sin separates the sinner from God. There is nothing the sinner can do of himself which will close or bridge over this separation.

In addition, our sins often bring harm to others who may be innocent (read *Exodus 20:5*). Our sins often bring embarrassment and humiliation to those dear to us. Some sins may even bring physical harm to those near us. Sin always tends to break down ties of respect that bind us to others. Sin may even bring disrepute to the nation in which we live. Sin always belittles the church we attend and weakens and distorts our witness.

Degrees of Guilt

Since most of us do not commit violent crimes, we consider ourselves to be relatively sinless. This brings up the question of whether or not there are big sins and little sins, serious sins and trivial sins. Our topic for last week dealt with the "little foxes" that Solomon spoke of. Is the sin of murder more serious than the sin of lying? (Read *James 2:10*.) It becomes more and more evident that sin, any sin, separates man from God. A sin which society calls great does not produce a greater separation than does a sin which society calls small. All sinners, and this means all of us, find themselves equally separated from God.

What Is the Remedy?

Since man cannot save himself, cannot heal the breach between himself and God, how can he be saved? One answer might be to stop sinning. This, however, we soon discover we cannot do. If man cannot save himself, obviously his salvation must come from someone else. The only one who can save is God. This seems hard to understand. Why should God, against whom we sin, make it possible for that same sin to be forgiven? The only answer to this question is love, God's love for what He has created. However, let us look at this matter of forgiveness a little more closely.

Ephesians 2:8 states that men are saved through faith. However, it is apparent in recent times that people have accepted this statement without understanding what faith really is. We have fallen into the error of thinking that faith is merely the acknowledgement that in our opinion God exists. We may call this an academic faith or even a believing faith. Is this the kind of faith referred to in this verse? The faith Paul speaks of here is much more than admitting God is. It is the kind of faith that prompts a man to trust all that he has and is to God. It is the kind of faith that trusts God with our future both upon earth as well as in eternity. In other words, a saving faith includes a willingness to commit one's life to God.

Committing one's life to God, however, also involves other attitudes. Stewardship must enter into a committed life. We must acknowledge that our person, our time, our possessions, and our skills are God's and that for a time we have the responsibility of keeping them for Him. Also we are held accountable for how we manage all this for God. (Read *Luke 16:2; Romans 14:12*.) The truly committed person is one who opens his heart and life to God, invites God to enter his life, and allows God to direct all his activities. So faith is not a passive attitude, but an active way of life designed to worship and honor God.

How Can We Be Sure?

How can I be sure that God has forgiven me? This question involves aspects. First, God has told us, "And him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37b). It also involves the nature of our faith. Perhaps those who ask this question are not really uncertain about being forgiven, but rather uncertain about the kind of faith they have. If one's faith is such that he is willing to trust Him with his life and his future, then he can be certain that God will forgive him. For if we have this kind of faith, then we are always sorry for any acts that bring dishonor to God or which make our witness ineffective. Being sorry, we acknowledge our need of forgiveness. Having faith in God is the avenue through which that forgiveness is granted to us.

*Mr. Schaeffer is minister of the Presbyterian Church of East Bethany, New York, and a former field secretary of the New York State Union.

Let's Sing

Psalm 104:33, 34; 149:1; 150



Junior High (12-14 Years)

AUGUST 13

Comments by Mrs. Donald McFadden*

Instructions

The following material is more than you can use. The purpose is to offer several suggestions from which you can choose which you can best use. Some suggestions will need research beforehand to complete them for presentation. At the end of the lesson are some suggested resource books. These can probably be borrowed from your pastor or church library.

Make use of solos, duets, and quartets, along with instrumental music. The order in which the material is given is a suggested order of service.

Devotions

Read the topic Scriptures, Psalm 150 responsively, and have prayer.

Song Service

Some time before the meeting take a survey to find the ten most popular hymns in your congregation. You may want to cut the number to four or five. Use these hymns in your song service.

Reports

This is an informational time in the form of reports or readings given by members of our group. The second report could be used later in the meeting.

The Origin of Music

As far back as there is a record of civilization there is also a record of music in some form. The first mention in the Bible of music is found in Genesis 4:21. "And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ." Jubal was the great-grandson of Adam and Eve. We might call him the inventor of musical instruments.

Music was present, however, in the world even before Jubal's time. The trees, the brooks, and the birds in the Garden of Eden all blended in the harmonious sounds of music.

Some scholars believe the first time music was made is recorded in Job 38:7. God states that in the moment of creation of the physical order, "The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." At the hour of creation the very stars formed a choir which sang the praise of the creator. Scientist have perfected an instrument which transmits the "color tones" of the stars into a sound. Indeed the stars do sing!

So the origin of music goes back to an act of God, who is the author of everything good and perfect, and certainly that includes music.

History of Music in Worship

The Egyptians were one of the early peoples that used songs in ritual to their gods.

Mrs. McFadden is the co-sponsor of the Junior High-High School Christian Endeavor group at Overland Park United Brethren Church in Portland, Oregon, where her husband is pastor.

Of all the ancient civilizations, however, it was the Hebrews whose music ranks above the others, because they used their music only for the worship of the true God. Both David and Solomon added much to the music used by the Hebrews with their training of great choirs and orchestras for worship in the temple.

For many centuries music used in church worship was sung only by choirs, and that was done in Latin which most of the people couldn't understand. Martin Luther started the first congregational singing in church. He also wrote many hymns in the language of the people. Years later, Isaac Watts and Charles Wesley continued the writing of hymns which expressed the experiences of the people.

A new type of music used in the church of today is called "Gospel song." It had its start under the great work of Moody and Sankey. The words speak of a personal relationship between the singer and God, and the tunes are more lilting and easily sung by people at work as well as at worship in church.

The most wonderful thing about all these hymns which have been written down through the ages is the message they tell—the message that God loves His people and has a personal blessing for each.

Instruments Used in Bible Times

An interesting report could be given on the instruments mentioned in the Bible. Use a good Bible dictionary (check with your pastor). You'll find several kinds listed under "musical instruments" with a brief description of each. There are three main types: those shaken or struck; those blown with the breath; and stringed instruments. Several young people could help in giving this report.

Stories of Authors—Interviews

Planned in advance this could be taped on a tape recorder and played during the meeting. The taped interview might begin with the sound of a knock on the door and the introduction: "Hello, Mr. Wesley, I'm Jim Martin, from First Church. I understand you wrote many of the songs we now sing in church. I have a report to make on hymn writers. Would you mind answering a few questions?"

A few questions might be: During what years did you live? What was your family like? Where were you born? What did you and your brother do? What songs did you write?

Many other questions could be made up from the material given on Charles Wesley and any other author's life you plan to use.

Only two authors are given, but it is possible for you to find material about others in reference books. Use the songs these authors wrote as specials or in group singing.

Charles Wesley

Wesley was born in 1707 in England of a large family—19 children. His schooling

was quite different from ours. He spent six hours a day in school with his parents as teachers, and only one day was allowed in which to learn the alphabet. Charles and his brother John spent their life traveling all over England preaching and singing. The songs that Charles wrote and sang reached many that his brother's preaching didn't. Their work helped many people who didn't attend the stately services of the established church. In his lifetime, Charles Wesley composed more than 6,000 hymns. They spoke of a personal experience with God.

Fanny Crosby

Fanny Crosby lost her eyesight when she was six weeks old. Someone used the wrong medicine. She was always cheerful, however, and was so active all during her lifetime that it was hard to believe that she was blind. She attended a school for the blind and worked so hard that she became one of the teachers. It was not until she was 45 years old that she began writing hymns, although she had written other songs and poems. Until her death when she was 95, she wrote more than 8,000 hymns and Gospel songs.

Stories of Songs

The story of a hymn or Gospel song could be given just before the group sings the song or before it is given as a special number. Have several throughout the topic. These may be secured from reference books listed below.

Alternate Program Suggestions

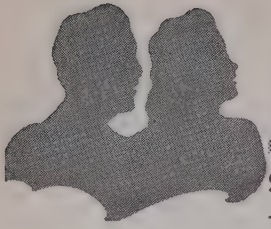
Arrange the front of the room like a music shop displaying hymn and chorus books. Musical instruments could be on display as well as a record player with records and/or a tape recorder with tapes of hymns and Gospel songs. A good shop manager and pianist are important. The manager could start by singing *It's in My Heart* or *The Lord Gave Me a Song*.

After the solo, customers come in looking for special types of songs. A dialogue takes place between the customers and the manager. The songs they are looking for are played or sung for them. This could be done in a varied manner throughout the program using instruments, solos, duets, trios, quartets, or other groups, and congregational singing at various spots.

Here are a few suggested customers and songs: Sailor—*Let the Lower Lights Be Burning*; Farmer—*Bringing in the Sheaves*; Elderly couple—*The Old-Fashioned Meeting*; Soldier—*Onward Christian Soldiers*; Shepherd—*Saviour, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us*; Gardener—*In the Garden*; Laborer—*Come unto Me*; Doctor—*The Great Physician*; and Teacher—*I Love to Tell the Story*.

References

Stories of Hymns by Kathleen Blanchard (there are three different books); *Stories of Hymns We Love* by Cecilia Rudin; Bible dictionary; encyclopaedia; and a good reference Bible.



The Cost of Popularity

No. 3 in a Series: "Counsel for Conduct"

II Corinthians 6:14-18

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

AUGUST 2

Comments by Elwood Dunn*

Planning the Program

Arrange to present this lesson as if there were a noted chef preparing his favorite dish called "popularity" for very important people. Dress the leader in a chef's hat and apron. The setting could be a table with a big kettle, spoons, mixer, and containers with various ingredients in them. The chef will need four assistants who should be dressed in a similar manner. Each will represent one of the ingredients that goes into the dish called "popularity." Using various colored liquids, one for each speaker, would add to the realism of the presentation. As each assistant speaks, he might give the material to the chef to mix in the big kettle.

Promoting the Program

1. Announce the meeting at least three weeks in advance in both your society and Sunday school classes. Make the announcements interesting and enthusiastic.

2. Put the announcement in the church bulletin and church paper if there is one. Be sure to get the information to the person preparing the bulletin on time.

3. Make and put up posters in such places as the bulletin board, Sunday school classes. Poster suggestions: Sketch (or cut from a magazine) a very successful looking person, using construction paper or poster board. Use a caption like "You too can be popular! Come to Christian Endeavor and find out how." Give time and place and date on the poster, or show an Indian or sailor shading his eyes or using binoculars and looking into the far distance. Caption it "Looking for ways to be popular?"

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service

Prelude

Song Service

Prayer

Special Number

Scripture Reading: II Corinthians 6:14-18

(Additional Scripture can be drawn from the Daily Readings on page 26.)

Offering and Announcements

Topic Presentation

Song: *Are Ye Able, Said the Master*

Benediction

Leader's Introduction

We have a team of special cooks that are preparing a delectable dish that is called "popularity." It has such a delightful taste and aroma that it is sought after by young people all over the world. There are many imitations of this preparation. Many have sought it for itself only to discover that it is rancid in flavor and nauseous in aroma. Neither has synthetic popularity ever been widely accepted. Only by the proper com-

bination of the proper ingredients has the food ever been made palatable. My four assistants will describe the important elements in its preparation. You will note that the first letter of each makes up one word from our topic. C-O-S-T. (Here display a card, in recipe form, showing an acrostic.)

C-oncerned

O-ptimistic

S-acrificial

T-rustworthy

Concern

One of the basic ingredients in the dish called "popularity" is *concern*. In Genesis 4 there is the record of Cain's killing his brother Abel. God came to ask where Abel was, and Cain's answer was a question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" The fact that he asked the question in this manner indicated that he knew the answer. He, and all other men, are keepers of their brothers. Acts of selfishness, greed, and unconcern can be found in each day's newspaper. The people displaying these attitudes never become popular with their fellow men.

Jesus lived a concerned life. He said, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Only someone moved with concern would come from heaven to save men.

When the apostle Paul wrote to the Christians in Rome he expressed his concern by saying, "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise" (Romans 1:14). Paul said that he owed everyone the message of the Gospel. It is a great debt, but he was willing to preach the Gospel to all in Rome. Paul was a *concerned* man. He also admonished the Christians in Galatia, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). He who might like to be popular must lose this desire in the greater desire to be helpful.

Optimism

The second letter of the word cost is "o". It stands for *optimism*. A gloomy person is never popular. The long-faced, sour-visaged individual repels rather than attracts others. We like to be around those who are always seeing the bright side of life. We are attracted when anyone looks at life in a positive manner. People with this view are not daunted by difficulties or problems. They just set to work and get around them.

An officer in a church came to the meeting of the governing body of the congregation, and the chairman asked him what he thought about the subject under consideration. The officer replied, "I don't know what you're talking about, but I'm agin it." There are people who are always against every forward movement. Some one has called them the people that were born "in the objective case." The pessimist looks at the hole in the doughnut as a complete loss while the optimist sees it as a place to put his finger while he holds the doughnut.

Paul was a confirmed optimist. He declared of himself, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). Or as he says in Philippians 3:13, "But this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." One cannot help but admire such a person. His eyes are forward; he looks for and expects success. This surely is an ingredient in making one popular.

Sacrifice

"S" in the word cost stands for *sacrifice*. It is not always easy to live a sacrificial life. Everyone likes to have his own way. It is possible that the "I want to" of the young person is more emotional than for older persons. Sometimes anger, resentment and even disobedience stem from the "want to" drive.

The daily readings of this week included a section from the life of Esther. She was a person who surely had her own wishes. She could have easily gone her own way and not made any intercession for the Jews even though they were her own people. But it seems certain that she had come to the land for just such an hour (Esther 4:14). Esther knew that if she did not find favor with the king, she would die. Not only would she lose her own life, but so would all her people be put to death. Even though she was in danger, she felt compelled to make the sacrifice if she must and attempt to save the Jews. So she went before the king and there she successfully pleaded the case for her countrymen.

Each one might consider three things when tempted to say "I want to" when it affects others. (1) Am I considering the total good of all the group of which I am a part? I am a part of a family, a Sunday school class, a Christian Endeavor society, the church, the gang, the school, and as a part of a group I must take them into consideration when my wants come to the fore. (2) Am I as an individual being selfish or sacrificial in my desires? (3) Am I willing, some of the time, to sacrifice personal desires for the good of all?

Trustworthiness

The fourth letter in the word cost is "t". Let it stand for *trustworthiness*. How we admire this quality in people! It is so important in little things, such as being on time. A very fine song leader was slowly dropped from the minds of young people simply because he was never on time. Sometimes he failed to come at all. It is important that each one assume his or her responsibility in the Christian Endeavor society and the church. In business, employers are always looking for trustworthy people. The person who lacks this quality will never attain much popularity or success.

*Mr. Dunn is general secretary of the Michigan Christian Endeavor Union and chairman of the Youth Work Committee of the International Society.

Twilight Meditations

Genesis 24:10-12, 63-67



Junior High (12-14 Years)

AUGUST 20

Comments by Miss Wilma L. Monroe*

Promoting the Meeting

Advertise your meeting through the church bulletin and announcements made at the Sunday school or midweek services where Junior Highs are in attendance. Posters calling attention to the meeting topic could emphasize the topic by use of sketches of an open Bible and praying hands together with information concerning the date and place of the meeting.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Prelude
Call to Worship: Psalm 19:1,2
Hymn: *This Is My Father's World*
Prayer
Hymn: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*
Announcements and Offering
Verses: *Whisper a Prayer; Christ Is the Answer; God's Way My Way*
Scripture Reading: Genesis 24:10-12,63-67
Topic Presentation
Questions for Discussion
Special Vocal Music: *When I Kneel Down to Pray*
Presentation of Quiet Hour Enrollment Cards
Silent Prayer Period Closed with Prayer by Pastor or Counselor
Hymn: *Now the Day Is Over*
Benediction

Planning the Service

This topic can very successfully be presented in a number of ways. An outdoor meeting place such as a lakeside, a quiet park area, or perhaps your own church lawn—especially if yours is a rural church—would be very fitting for this service. Surrounded by the beauties of nature our Heavenly Father has provided for our enjoyment and perhaps in the light of a glowing campfire as well, each may be led to discover for himself the spiritual value of meditation. Much prayerful preparation and advanced planning by the leader will be necessary to realize the desired results.

If members of your society play musical instruments, these can be used for the prelude, to accompany group singing, and just before the benediction. The prelude could be an appropriate evening hymn played softly at a distance and out of view of the group.

The meeting this evening would be a fine opportunity to invite members to begin observing the Quiet Hour by signing a Quiet Hour Enrollment Card. Prayerfully plan with your counselor and pastor for this portion of the meeting. Perhaps you may wish to have one of them participate in this part of the service. Copies of the folders *What Is the Quiet Hour?* should be handed out

the previous Sunday. These and the Quiet Hour Enrollment cards can be purchased from the International Society of Christian Endeavor.

Leader's Introduction

Every day seems to be so full of activity—so many things to do, so many places to go—that we never seem to have enough time to get everything done. Many times we must choose what we will do and what needs to be done first. I wonder how many times we do not choose wisely.

Keeping in mind that all of his activities should be pleasing to God and a witness for Christ to anyone with whom he works and plays, every Christian needs to plan prayerfully how he will spend his time. This evening we are taking time to think about a most important part of a Christian's day—his time of meditation and prayer.

A Meditation on Psalm 8

Looking around us this evening we see the beautiful things God has provided for our enjoyment. Who can possibly create a sunset as beautiful as it really is or blend the shades of green into the pleasing array we see in the foliage of the trees, shrubs, and plants around us? Did you ever sit quietly on a cloudless night and gaze into the heavens noticing the beauty of the stars?

When we take time to think about these things, we think of the one who created them—our Heavenly Father. But God's last creation was man whom He created in His own image (Genesis 1:27). To him He gave dominion over the earth He had created and also fellowship with Him. All of this causes us like David to ask, "What is man, that thou art mindful of him?"

Don't we feel most grateful for His care and His sending His Son to be our Saviour? Thinking on these things we, too, feel so conscious of the Lord's presence we just naturally want to tell Him how grateful we are for His love and concern for us and to express our desire to show our love for Him.

Meditation Experiences of Jesus

Have you ever noticed as you read from the Gospels how often Jesus drew apart for prayer? No one today could be more busy than Jesus was or have more important work to be done. Yet our Lord found He greatly needed times of meditation and prayer.

Early in the morning following a busy day when He had healed Peter's mother-in-law and many others, Jesus left to go into a quiet place to pray (Mark 1:35).

After He had taught the people all day long and had fed them with the five loaves and two fishes, the Lord sent His disciples across the sea, dismissed the people, and then left to go into the mountains to pray (Matthew 14:22,23).

When the time came for the selection of the twelve disciples, Luke 6:12,13 states that Jesus spent the entire night in prayer.

On some occasions the disciples were with Jesus when He prayed. One day they asked Him to teach them to pray. They had noticed how important prayer was in the Master's life and seemed to realize it could make a great difference in their lives also.

These are only a few of the many references telling of the important place prayer had in the life of Christ. If our Lord felt prayer was so necessary for Him, aren't people foolish to think they are able to manage their lives without asking God to help them?

Our Need for Meditation

Why do I need to take time to meditate on God's word and ask for His help every day?

We cannot know God's will for our lives unless we read His Word. David said, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee," and again, "Thy word is a lamp to my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:11,105). We need to know what God says He will do for us as His followers.

When we read His word and really let Him talk to us through it, we find we are anxious to talk to Him and to ask Him to help us. Problems do not look nearly as large when we have the Lord's help in meeting them. Our love for our Saviour and our willingness to serve Him increase the more we have fellowship with Him in Bible reading and prayer.

Questions for Discussion

1. Was it necessary for Jesus to take time for meditation and prayer? What would have happened if He had not taken time for these experiences?
2. Why do we not take sufficient time for prayer and meditation?
3. When is the best time for these daily worship experiences?
4. What differences can one expect in his daily life if he takes time to meditate and to pray regularly?
5. Can you point out examples of strength displayed in the lives of people we know who take time to pray daily?

In Closing

Arrange for some of your members who are already keeping the Quiet Hour to tell briefly how it has helped them in living for Christ.

Close the discussion period with the reading of *His Presence Came Like Sunrise* by Ralph S. Cushman, in *The Best Loved Religious Poems* by James Gilchrist Lawson (Fleming H. Revell Company, 1933).

Present the Quiet Hour Enrollment Cards, and follow this by forming the friendship circle for the time of silent prayer. At the close of the prayer period as the group remains in the circle an evening hymn may be played at a distance and/or sung by the group. Follow with the Mizpah benediction.

*Miss Monroe is an elementary schoolteacher in Celina, Ohio, director of camps for the United Brethren in Christ, and a former missionary in Sierra Leone.



Musing on Amusements

No. 4 in a Series: "Counsel for Conduct"

Romans 13:11-14

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

AUGUST 2

Comments by Rev. George Weaver*

For the Leader

Let's get to work! For a change, here at once is some of the resource material you will need in preparing and presenting this topic.

Where are you? This is the fourth in a series *Counsel for Conduct*. Previous discussions have been given on the "Little Foxes" (those small insidious evils which spoil the purity of our Christian witness), "Willful Sinning" (the presumptuous act of deliberate disobedience to the will of God), and last week "The Cost of Popularity." Each of these topics should have helped Christian young people strengthen their faith and convictions concerning questionable and outright sinful situations which constantly confront them. This topic completes the series with a discussion on the place of amusements in the life of the Christian.

What does it mean? Just so you know what you are talking about, let's define the terms of the topic. The word *muse* conveys an act of pondering or consideration. It is a mental reflection on the merits or qualities of any particular thing. *Amusement* refers to any activity which diverts the mind to something light and pleasant, which changes one's thoughts from the regular routine. Various forms of recreation, sports, entertainments, etc. are classified as amusements.

How do amusements fit into the Christian faith? This is really the key question for the whole topic. Your purpose as leader is not to convince the group that certain forms of amusement are or are not acceptable. Your purpose is to challenge the group to evaluate the place and use of amusements in their individual lives as they live for Christ before the world.

God's Word has an answer! There is not a more basic resource for presenting this topic than an understanding of what Paul meant when he wrote Romans 13:11-14. Here in these verses is the counsel of God which will help youth to evaluate their amusements properly.

What time is it? Paul declares it is time to wake up. Just as one cannot spend all his physical life asleep, so one must be spiritually awake if he is to enjoy the blessings of God. The Scriptures have much to say concerning time. In Ephesians 5:14-16, we note that Paul also wrote: "Awake thou that sleepest . . . walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time." This would indicate that time is a gift from God and we have a Christian responsibility to make the most of it. In His Word, God has attempted to convey to us a feeling of urgency concerning our use of time. We

ought to understand that time is not ours to "kill" but to use.

Time is best redeemed by living in the light. There is a certain kind of conduct which is worthy of the Christian, and we should try to accommodate ourselves to that pattern of behavior. The words "Let us walk honestly" can be better translated as "Let us conduct ourselves *becomingly*." Our use of time must be subjected to this concept: Is it *becoming* to my Christian faith? Is it in keeping with my resolve to serve Christ and the Church?

Paul mentions a few things certain people have found amusing. They are content to waste their time in reveling and drunkenness, in debauchery and licentiousness, in quarreling and jealousy. Such use their time for self-indulgence, intent on their own gratification without regard to the consequences in the lives of others or in their relationship to God.

But Paul goes further than this negative declaration of how not to use time. If he had stopped there, his moral counsel would have failed as does so much good advice. If one is really to make the most of life with its opportunity of time, then he must have an incentive.

This Paul provides in the admonition "Put on the Lord Jesus Christ." For every sincere Christian, Christ must become more than an example. We must join Paul in declaring, "For me to live is Christ."

Where do amusements fit in? By definition and practice, amusements can be constructive or destructive, depending on what we choose to do with our spare time. Like everything else in our lives, amusements can be made a part of our Christian experience and service to Christ. The real test is whether they are becoming to our Christian witness, whether they tend to increase or decrease our effectiveness for Christ and the church.

Each of us needs a "change of pace," once in a while. We cannot study constantly; we cannot work without rest; we cannot stand the emotional complexities of life without some relief. Amusement or diversion of our attention is a healthy and necessary part of life. We read that Jesus and His disciples sought many opportunities to be separate from the multitudes. But these times of being alone were most frequently used by our Lord for spiritual refreshment in prayer and fellowship.

What present-day amusements are acceptable?

This is really a personal question and must be answered by the individual in his relation to God. It might help if each person could list the amusements which are now a part of his life and how much time is devoted to them each week. As an illustration, how much time is spent in reading fictional materials, in watching television, at the bowling lanes, at the movies, in watching sporting events, or with a hobby? Then, let us honestly think of whether the hours spent in some of these amusements contribute to

a proper stewardship of time. What about a television diet with its violence and cheap love? Does it improve our spiritual capabilities? (How about the cheap novels and literature you buy? Do they edify our minds as a dwelling place of God's Holy Spirit? The spectacular suggestive movies—are they an instrument God to increase our moral courage and righteousness? These are the tests to which our amusements must be put. Those amusements which can stand the test have a place in the Christian life. Those which do not meet the standard of "redeeming the time" ought to be put aside for Christ's sake.

Preparing to Lead

The preceding thoughts are the basic resources from which you can now prepare to discuss this topic with your friends in your society. Because it is an important topic, you will want to share it with as many as possible.

Plan to make use of the church bulletin and advance announcements in the Sunday school and worship services. A suitable poster can be developed from a few pictures clipped from magazines. After a picture of Christ has been pasted to the poster board, surround it with scenes from various amusements. Draw lines from them leading toward Christ and caption the poster with the words *Where do these fit in?* At the bottom of the poster, invite all to attend the meeting, giving place and time.

The devotional service should have a strong emphasis on personal consecration, and hymns should be chosen which will fit this pattern.

As leader, you are responsible for introducing the *purpose* of the topic and its *method* of presentation. A part of the introduction of this topic could well be some facts on how much leisure time people have today and how it is spent and how much money is involved. A few minutes in the library will yield some very interesting facts with which to get your discussion under way.

This is a topic which lends itself very well to discussion. Here are some suggestions: With the use of the exposition on the Scripture lesson, discuss the importance of a proper use of time as Christians. A panel or individuals could present the case for or against certain amusements. Such a discussion could point out both the good and bad possibilities of many popular amusements. Discussion could also be provoked by asking for certain amusements to be subjected to the test questions suggested in the resource material provided above.

Closing Moments

A final note in this series of topics and especially this one should be sounded in closing this meeting. The pledge should be emphasized. For after all, this is the heart of Christian Endeavor. Youth promise by the help of our Lord to do what He would have them do. *This includes amusements!*

*Mr. Weaver is pastor of the Otterbein United Brethren in Christ Church of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.

Laborers Together

Romans 12:4, 5; I Corinthians 3:9; Matthew 9:37, 38



Junior High (12-14 Years)

AUGUST 27

Comments by Rev. C. Ray Miller*

Planning the Meeting

Contact several persons who will agree to serve as members of a panel for the discussion of various questions and problems related to the topic "Laborers Together." Each person may be assigned one discussion point and may be allowed several minutes for his presentation. After each member of the panel has participated, allow time for general discussion and for questions from any member of the youth group.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service

(Pray that as a result of this meeting, the group will realize more fully its responsibility to Christ and the church and that each member will dedicate his life in service for the Master.)

Relude

Call to Worship: "Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart."

Invocation

Hymn: *Jesus Saves*

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:4,5; I Corinthians 3:9; Matthew 9:37,38

Prayer Hymn: *I Am Thine, O Lord*

Prayer (Sentence prayers may be offered by several members.)

Announcements and Introduction of Guests

Offering

Special Music

Leader's Introduction

Topic Presentation

Closing Moments by the Counselor

Hymn: *Jesus Calls Us*

Closing Prayer

Postlude

Leader's Introduction

As Christian young people, we are workers with and for the Lord Jesus Christ. Is this not a great opportunity? Should we not attempt to do a most effective job as we undertake this important service?

At this meeting, we shall have several members of a panel who will answer some questions in regard to this matter of being "co-laborers with Christ," and we believe that this will be helpful to all of us.

We shall hear these members discuss answers to questions such as the following: "Why should I work for Him?" "What preparation should I make for this work?" "What resources are available?"

Let us hear the members of the panel as they answer important questions which have been assigned to them.

Why Should I Serve My Master?

A medical student was in the operating room waiting to watch a great surgeon at work. The surgeon's assistant failed to appear, and the surgeon asked the student to assist him. Later, in commenting on this experience, he said, "How proud I was to help this great man to save a life."

The Lord Jesus Christ has invited us to come and be of service in helping Him, and we should respond immediately. We should be proud of the honor of working for Him and with Him and for the privilege of helping to lead others to Him.

Edward Kimball was a faithful Sunday school teacher who went to D. L. Moody's place of business and spoke to this shoe cobbler about becoming a Christian. Mr. Moody accepted the invitation and later became a world-renowned evangelist, leading thousands of persons to Christ. What if Mr. Kimball, this devoted Sunday school teacher, had failed in his service for the Master?

What if we should fail?

Consider also the life of William Carey, that great missionary genius who translated the Bible into 40 different Oriental languages and dialects. This great man was led to Christ by a young Christian, John Warr. Mr. Warr was a consecrated co-worker, and the results of his work are outstanding.

Are we willing to serve our Master like this?

What Preparation Should I Make?

Preparation must be made in any phase of work in order to be successful. In the Christian life we want to be successful; we want to be champions for God; we want to be true co-laborers for God and with Christ; and we want to hear Him say to us, "Well done."

The story is told of a blind soldier who was playing the piano in the convalescent ward of a London hospital a short time after the war had ended. Presently some visitors entered the room, but he was used to such interruptions and so he played on, filling the long ward with lovely melody. When the music ceased, a gentleman walked over to the piano and said, "Well done, my friend!" The surprised soldier, thinking it was one of his comrades, swung around on his stool, and with a smile said, "And who are you?" Quick as a flash, and as startling, came the reply, "Your King!" In an instant the man was on his feet with his hand at salute, his whole being filled with pleasure at the honor accorded him by the royal word of praise.

There is the note of praise for service well done, but first there must be preparation.

We must receive the Lord Jesus Christ into our lives, because it is impossible to share that which we do not possess. Our lives must be pure, and we must strive to imitate the Master. We must be students of the Bible and must pray earnestly and consistently for God's guidance in our lives.

What Resources Are Available?

1. *The Bible.* It is important that we read the Bible daily and that we learn how to use the Scriptures. Jesus used them effectively. (Refer to the *Daily Bible Readings* carried in this magazine.)

2. *Other devotional literature.* We should use such material frequently and receive the benefits which may be derived from it. (Refer to literature used by your own congregation.)

3. *Prayer.* True prayer is communion with God. Knowing how to pray effectively is the key to the power and the blessing of God. (Mention the importance of keeping the Quiet Hour.)

4. *Worship services.* We must form the habit of attending worship services regularly. This is a means of receiving help and also of helping others. (Refer to the benefits of your own church's services.)

What Is Expected of Me?

In a hospital in China a medical missionary operated on the cataract of a man and restored his sight. A few weeks later 48 blind men from the interior of China, each holding on to a rope held in the hands of the man who was cured, came to the doctor. This chain of men had walked 250 miles to the hospital where nearly all were cured.

Jesus healed us. Therefore, what must we do? (Suggest what Junior Highs can do in your community to help others to know Christ.)

Closing

As workers with and for Christ, we have great opportunities. But it is also a real privilege to be able to work with one another and to have Christian fellowship. No person lives only unto himself, and no person can feel that he is self-sufficient. Rather, people of various vocations and professions are dependent upon each other as we serve Christ. Undoubtedly, each of us would profit by making an attempt to understand other groups of people better.

To the Counselor

The group may wish to suggest ways by which a better understanding may be accomplished. The group may wish also to ask the members of the panel additional questions in regard to "Laborers Together" as followers of Christ.

*Mr. Miller is minister of the Prince Street United Brethren Church, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania.

Daily Bible Readings for Your Quiet Hour

Here are the daily Bible readings selected for use in connection with the weekly Christian Endeavor topics for July and August, 1961. These particular selections have been chosen because they give valuable food for thought in connection with the topic for the Sunday to follow.

These readings are grouped together on one page in order that Endeavorers may easily use them. Why not clip out this section and place it in your Bible, ready for your daily Quiet Hour observance.



Junior High (Intermediate)

Daily Readings

M. June 26 Prevailing Hands Exodus 17:9-14
T. June 27 Casting Hands Exodus 32:15-24
W. June 28 Strong Hands I Samuel 17:32-49
T. June 29 Helping Hands I Samuel 20:35-42
F. June 30 Cruel Hands Acts 7:57-60
S. July 1 Busy Hands Acts 9:36-43
Sun. July 2—Topic: It's in Our Hands Exodus 4:1-9

M. July 3 Hearing God's Voice I Samuel 3:1-10
T. July 4 Spiritual Growth II Peter 1:1-8
W. July 5 A Good Example Luke 4:1-16
T. July 6 Living Stones I Peter 2:1-6
F. July 7 Full Grown Ephesians 4:13-16
S. July 8 Endure Chastening Hebrews 12:4-11

Sun. July 9—Topic: Grow in Stature Luke 2:40-52

M. July 10 Richly Rewarded Ruth 2:10-23
T. July 11 Time Wasted Matthew 25:1-13
W. July 12 Time for God Mark 1:35-39
T. July 13 Time Well Used Colossians 4:1-5
F. July 14 Responsibility for Others Romans 14:1-9
S. July 15 Good Workmen Galatians 6:1-4
Sun. July 16—Topic: Are You Clock-Eyed? Psalm 90:1-12

M. July 17 A Perpetual Covenant Exodus 31:12-17
T. July 18 Keeping the Day Holy Exodus 35:1-3
W. July 19 Well Doing Matthew 12:9-13
T. July 20 The Birthday of the Church Acts 2:1-7
F. July 21 Breaking Bread Acts 20:7-12
S. July 22 Attend Services Luke 4:16-22
Sun. July 23—Topic: Sunday—So What! Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11

M. July 24 Time to Make Right Genesis 42:5-20
T. July 25 Daily Pressure Judges 16:15-21
W. July 26 A Bad Ending I Chronicles 10:1-14
T. July 27 A Foolish King II Chronicles 16:7-12
F. July 28 Too Late Matthew 27:1-10
S. July 29 Always Confident Psalm 23:1-6
Sun. July 30—Topic: Time Will Tell Ecclesiastes 12

M. July 31 A Psalm of Trust Psalm 125
T. Aug. 1 I Shall Not Be Moved Acts 20:22-27
W. Aug. 2 A Sure Faith Acts 27:18-26
T. Aug. 3 An Anchor of the Soul Hebrews 6:13-20
F. Aug. 4 Grace for Serving God Hebrews 12:25-27
S. Aug. 5 Christian Virtues Romans 12:10-21
Sun. Aug. 6—Topic: Anchors That Hold Psalm 18:1-3; 46:1-3; Romans 10:9,10; Acts 26:13-19

M. Aug. 7 A Song of Deliverance Exodus 15:1-23
T. Aug. 8 A Lost Song Psalm 137
W. Aug. 9 Praise Him Psalm 95:1-6
T. Aug. 10 A Great Choir I Chronicles 25:5-7
F. Aug. 11 Songs in the Night Acts 16:25-31
S. Aug. 12 A Song in Your Hearts Ephesians 5:18-20

Sun. Aug. 13—Topic: Let's Sing! Psalm 104:33,34; 149:1; 150

M. Aug. 14 An Evening Picture Psalm 104:19-24
T. Aug. 15 Praise Ye the Lord Psalm 148
W. Aug. 16 An Evening with Jesus Mark 14:22-28
T. Aug. 17 Prayer Time Mark 6:45-47
F. Aug. 18 Abide with Us Luke 24:28-32
S. Aug. 19 Consider the Heavens Psalm 8:1-9
Sun. Aug. 20—Topic: Twilight Meditations Genesis 24:10-12,63-67

M. Aug. 21 God's Blueprint Exodus 25:31-40
T. Aug. 22 Laborers in the Vineyard Matthew 20:1-16
W. Aug. 23 Harvest Hands Luke 10:1-6
T. Aug. 24 Labor to Give Acts 20:32-37
F. Aug. 25 Worthy Laborers I Thessalonians 2:8-13
S. Aug. 26 Following Jesus John 1:35-46
Sun. Aug. 27—Topic: Laborers Together Romans 12:4,5; I Corinthians 3:9; Matthew 9:37,38

Senior High-Young People's

Daily Readings

M. June 26 Nations for Blessing Genesis 35:9-15
T. June 27 Nations for Correction Judges 2:20-3:4
W. June 28 Nations for Judgment Isaiah 10:5-12
T. June 29 Nations in God's Plan Matthew 24:1-8
F. June 30 Nations for Testimony Romans 9:4,5
S. July 1 God's Promise for Power I Kings 9:1-7
Sun. July 2—Topic: Power and Nations Colossians 1:16-18; Romans 13:1,2

M. July 3 Castaway for Disobedience II Chronicles 36:15-21
T. July 4 Pride Goes before a Fall Daniel 5:18-31
W. July 5 Sin Must Be Judged I Samuel 15:1-4
T. July 6 Idolatry Deuteronomy 4:23-27
F. July 7 Drunkenness Isaiah 5:11-14
S. July 8 To Magnify God Ezekiel 38:14-16
Sun. July 9—Topic: Why Nations Fall Psalm 9

M. July 10 Vows Are Sought Psalm 50:14,15
T. July 11 Vows Can Be Dangerous Judges 11:30-40
W. July 12 God's Mind on Vows Numbers 30:1-9
T. July 13 Vows Come Naturally Psalm 66:13-20
F. July 14 Vows Are Binding Deuteronomy 23:21-23
S. July 15 It's No Secret Hebrews 4:13
Sun. July 16—Topic: Vows? Careful! Ecclesiastes 5:1-6

M. July 17 Confessing Christ John 20:26-29
T. July 18 Before My Church Psalm 116:12-14
W. July 19 With This Ring Matthew 19:4-6
T. July 20 Vows of Dedication Romans 6:11-13
F. July 21 Praising God Psalm 56:9-13
S. July 22 Keeping Power Isaiah 40:28-31
Sun. July 23—Topic: Momentous Moments Psalm 90:12-17

M. July 24 Christian Judgment Day I Corinthians 3:11-15
T. July 25 White Throne Judgment Revelation 20:11-15
W. July 26 Resurrection Day Daniel 12:1-3
T. July 27 Day of Accounting Romans 14:10-13
F. July 28 Eliminate the Negative Psalm 89:46-52
S. July 29 Accentuate the Positive Psalm 39:4-7
Sun. July 30—Topic: Time Will Tell Ecclesiastes 12:1-4; James 4:13-15

M. July 31 Little But Wise Proverbs 30:24-28
T. Aug. 1 See What God Hates Proverbs 6:16-19
W. Aug. 2 Ruined Reputations Ecclesiastes 10:1
T. Aug. 3 Insanity of Anger Psalm 37:8-15

F. Aug. 4 Layaway for Future Good I Peter 1:24-28
S. Aug. 5 Your Own Mortician Colossians 3:5-7
Sun. Aug. 6—Topic: Little Foxes Song of Solomon 2:3
M. Aug. 7 Unrighteousness Has a Price II Thessalonians 2:8-10
T. Aug. 8 Sin's Lost Inheritance I Corinthians 6:9,10
W. Aug. 9 Destruction via Willful Sin I Corinthians 3:16,17
T. Aug. 10 The Full Picture Proverbs 23:29-35
F. Aug. 11 Adultery by Attitude Matthew 5:27,28
S. Aug. 12 Adultery's Devilish Devices Proverbs 7:1-23
Sun. Aug. 13—Topic: Willful Sinning Titus 2:11-15; II Timothy 3:1-5
M. Aug. 14 It Cost Herod Matthew 14:1-12
T. Aug. 15 Esther Paid the Price Esther 4:12-15
W. Aug. 16 Evaluate End Results Galatians 5:19-22
T. Aug. 17 My Christianity Costs I John 2:15-17
F. Aug. 18 Popularity through Sin Costs Romans 6:19-22
S. Aug. 19 Cost Accounting Mark 10:29,33
Sun. Aug. 20—Topic: The Cost of Popularity II Corinthians 6:14-18

M. Aug. 21 Profitable Meditation I Timothy 4:13-16
T. Aug. 22 Think on These Things Philippians 4:8
W. Aug. 23 Basis for Choice I Corinthians 6:12-14
T. Aug. 24 Motives That Move Romans 8:1-11
F. Aug. 25 The Big IF Colossians 3:1-4
S. Aug. 26 Test for a Decision I John 2:3-6
Sun. Aug. 27—Topic: Musing on Amusements Romans 13:11-14

ATTENTION, WRITERS! Are you interested in preparing articles on spiritual guidance, beamed to teen-agers? Would you like to report on a "how-to-do-it" idea or give guidance for successful committee work at the society or union level? Such materials are needed for THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD. For more information, write to the editor, Phyllis I. Rike.

JUNIOR CE MEETINGS The Quarterly for Juniors

Topics for JULY

July 2 Loyal to God and Country Psalm 33:12; Galatians 5:13-16
July 9 What a Wonderful World! Ecclesiastes 3:11-14
July 16 Harvest Time Luke 8:11-15
July 23 A Tree Known by Its Fruits Galatians 5:22,23; Luke 13:6-9
July 30 I Am a Debtor Romans 1:14-16; 8:12,13

Topics for AUGUST

Aug. 6 Using My Bible II Timothy 2:15; Acts 1:8
Aug. 13 Prepare Prayerfully Proverbs 15:32,33; James 5:16
Aug. 20 Increasing the Membership Acts 6:1-7
Aug. 27 Telling Others Matthew 28:16-20

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NEWS

from around the world



RIGHT—Pausing for a picture in the midst of convention planning are some of the members of the Executive Committee of the Chicago Convention. Shown (left to right) are: Seated—Laura Radtke, secretary; Herbert S. Tanis, chairman; Blanche G. Jansen, president, Chicago Union; Standing—Edward J. Chlumecky, treasurer; Robert C. Ross, vice-chairman; Charles Clark, vice-chairman; William R. Bonnema, associate chairman; and William Smith, vice-chairman.

LEFT—Standing in front of the red and white sign identifying Christian Endeavor Headquarters are Kojiro Hata (right) of Kyoto, Japan, who recently visited Columbus, Ohio, and Harold E. Westerhoff. Mr. Hata is chairman of the Japan Union of Christian Endeavor.



es E. Humphreys of Erie, Pennsylvania, former chairman of the Youth Assembly International Society, has been awarded Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship for graduate study in 1961-62. He is now studying at Oberlin College.

BC's of Christian Endeavor" was the theme for the West Branch Junior Conference held at Southwestern United Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 8. The program included Acts of a Christian, Beginnings of Christian Endeavor, Christian Symbolism, with Ruth Lowen, Gordon McMordie, and Mrs. Florence Robinson participating.

Youth Work Committee Members at the meeting in Columbus are (left to right): Rev. Clair E. Beatty, Rev. Nathan H. derWerf, Wanna Sell, and Joan Pyle; Standing—Elwood Dunn, chairman, Charles Matthews, Bert Day, and Delno W. Brown, educational secretary. Rev. Paul Dunn was unable to be present. BOTTOM—Children's Work Committee members at their meeting in Columbus are (left to right) Mrs. Warren G. Hoopes, Sr., chairman, Christian A. Tirre, Mrs. Marlin Dossett, Florence Zimmerman, and Delno W. Brown.



San Jacinto District Endeavorers held a unique tree planting and flag raising service this spring at the San Jacinto Battlefield near Houston, Texas. A plaque on the tree planted by the Endeavorers was inscribed, "A tree grows and branches out as Christian Endeavor grows and reaches out." The flag was newly-designed for the district by Lynn Marie McKnight, contest winner, and was unfurled for the first time at the service. Gloria I. McDonald of LaMarque was union president.

Planning to march in the parade at Chicago July 8 during the International Convention? Check the International Society Publishing Department for a list of materials suitable for parade regalia—Christian Endeavor hats, jackets, T-shirts, ties, monogram cut-outs, etc. Now is the time to order your supplies. Write to Carl F. Herrmann, manager, at 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

A new writer of Junior High topic comments, whose first materials appear in this issue, is Wilma L. Monroe of Celina, Ohio. Miss Monroe, who has served on the mission field in Sierra Leone, West Africa, is now an elementary schoolteacher. She is president of the Adult Christian Endeavor Society of Calvary Church of the United Brethren in Christ, Rockford, Ohio.

Pearl F. Reed of Derby, New York, is a new writer of Christian Endeavor topic comments, whose first material appears in this issue. Miss Reed is church secretary at First Church of Evans, where she also serves as Christian Endeavor and vacation Bible school director and a Sunday school teacher.



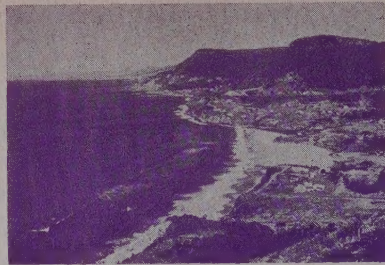
Word has just been received of the death March 3 of O. R. McElwain of Clarksburg, affectionately known as West Virginia's "Mr. Christian Endeavor." Active in West Virginia and the tri-state area, Mr. McElwain was a member of Methodist Temple. Our sympathy goes to his wife and children.



TOP—A portion of those at the speakers' table for the banquet during the Middle Atlantic Regional Conference May 5-7 in New York City are (left to right) Harold E. Westerhoff; Mrs. Daniel A. Poling; Dr. Daniel A. Poling, the speaker; James R. Westerhoff, vice-chairman in charge of the region; Phyllis I. Rike; and Evelyn R. Purdy. BOTTOM—Youth participating in the typical Christian Endeavor meeting following the banquet are (left to right) Deloris Pouncey, Kathleen Steffens, Douglas Barrett, and Dorothy Haessler.



Houseboats, bumboats, and sampans in the inner harbor of Singapore



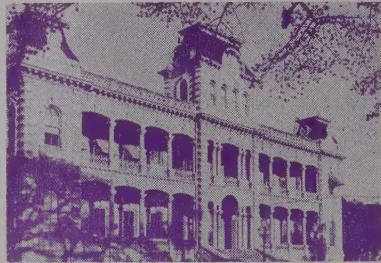
South Coast of New South Wales, part of Australia's 12,210 mile coastline



Manila City Hall on left and the Congress of the Philippines



Harbour Bridge, looking toward Auckland, New Zealand



Iolani Palace, Honolulu, housing the governor's office and the legislature



Aberdeen, with its famous floating restaurants, Hong Kong

Round- IN 1962 MAKE IT the- PAN AM Pacific With Christian Endeavor

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The all-expense, personally conducted tour will leave San Francisco Airport by Pan-American jet on Friday, August 3, arriving back at San Francisco by jet from Honolulu on Sunday, September 2. The price—\$2,325 at present published rates.

The party is limited to thirty-five persons. A deposit of \$200 will reserve a place for you on this tour which promises to top any Christian Endeavor International Fellowship Tour of the last decade.

For further information, write to Harold E. Westerhoff, Tour Director, International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.